CIVIC AFFAIRS

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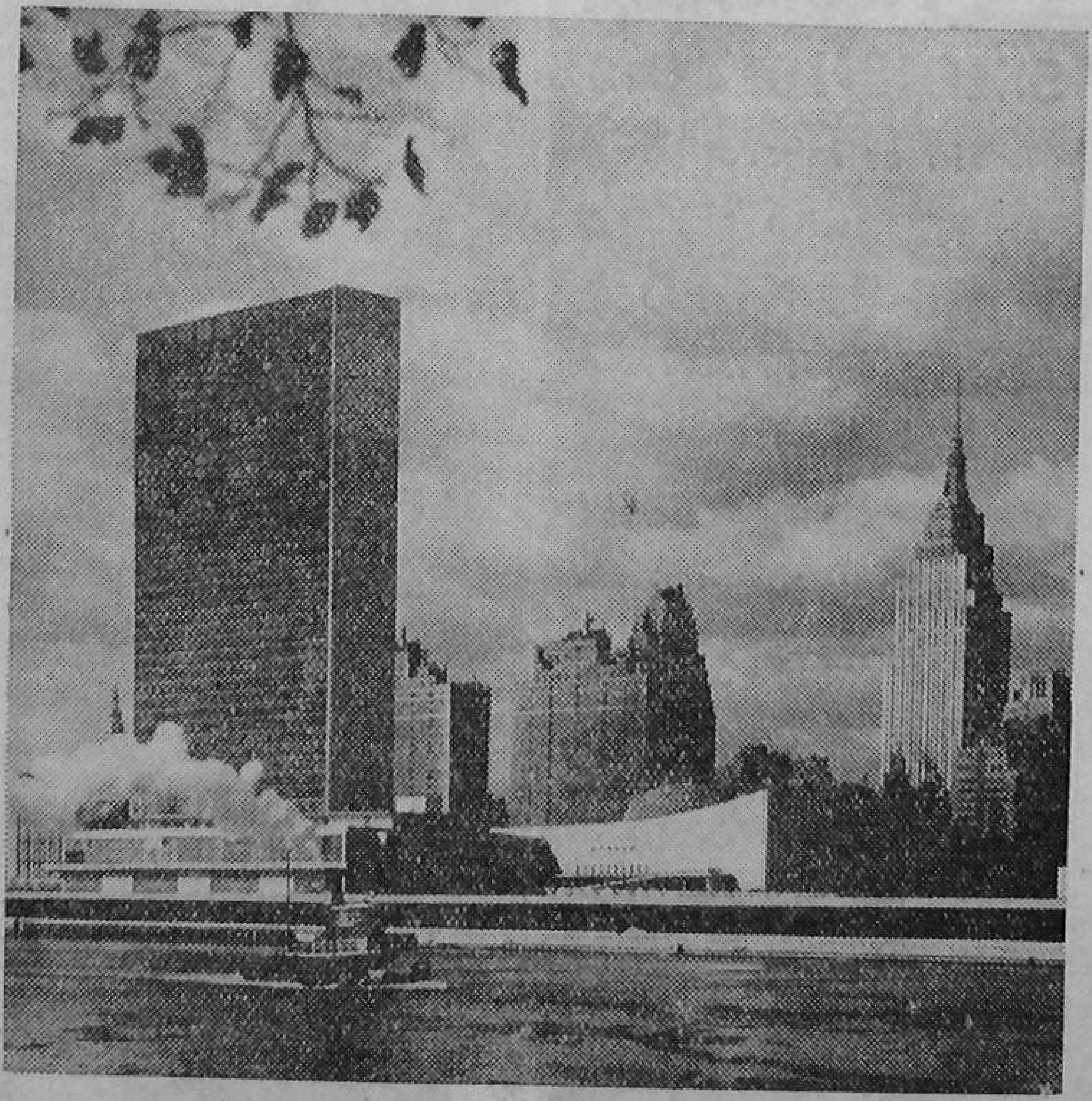

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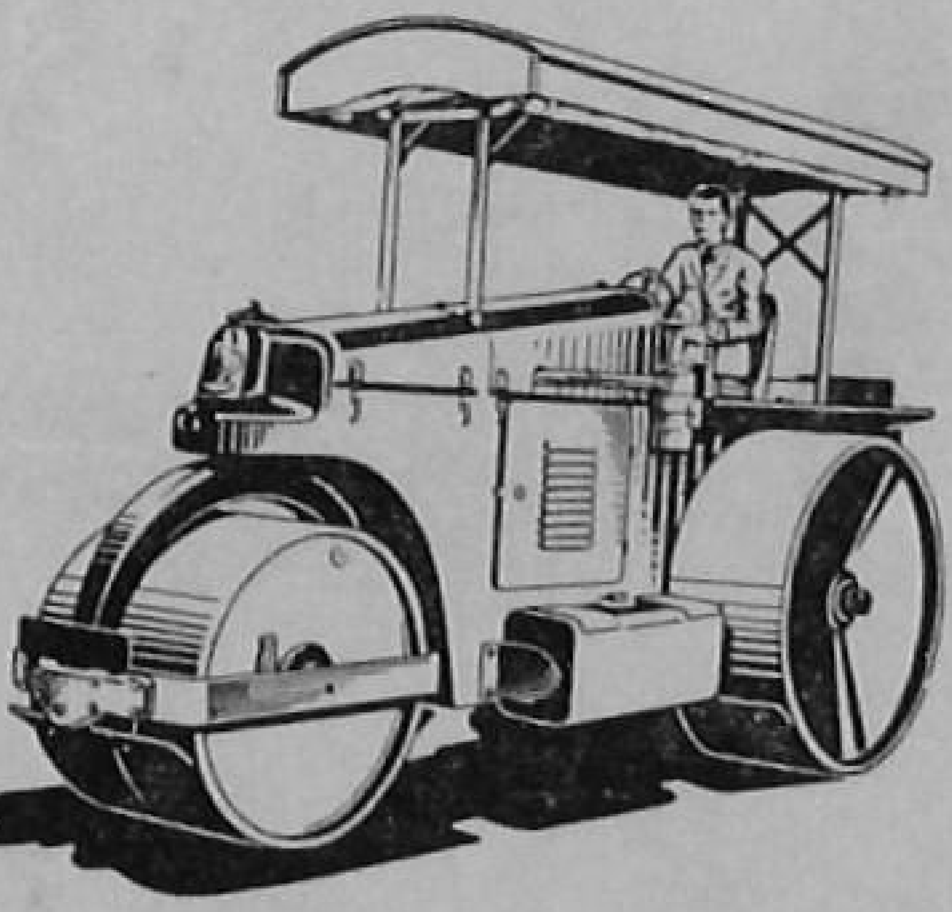

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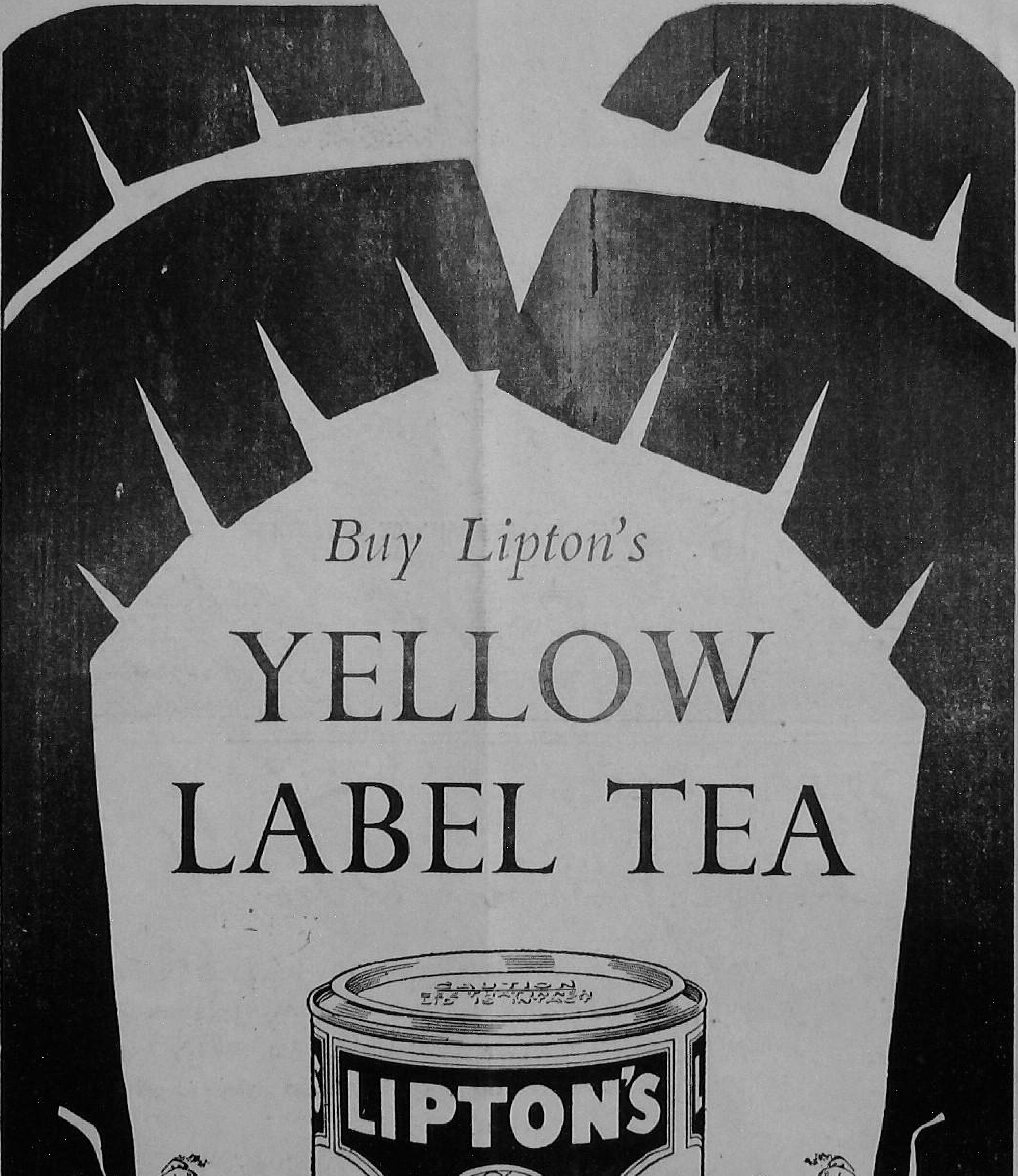
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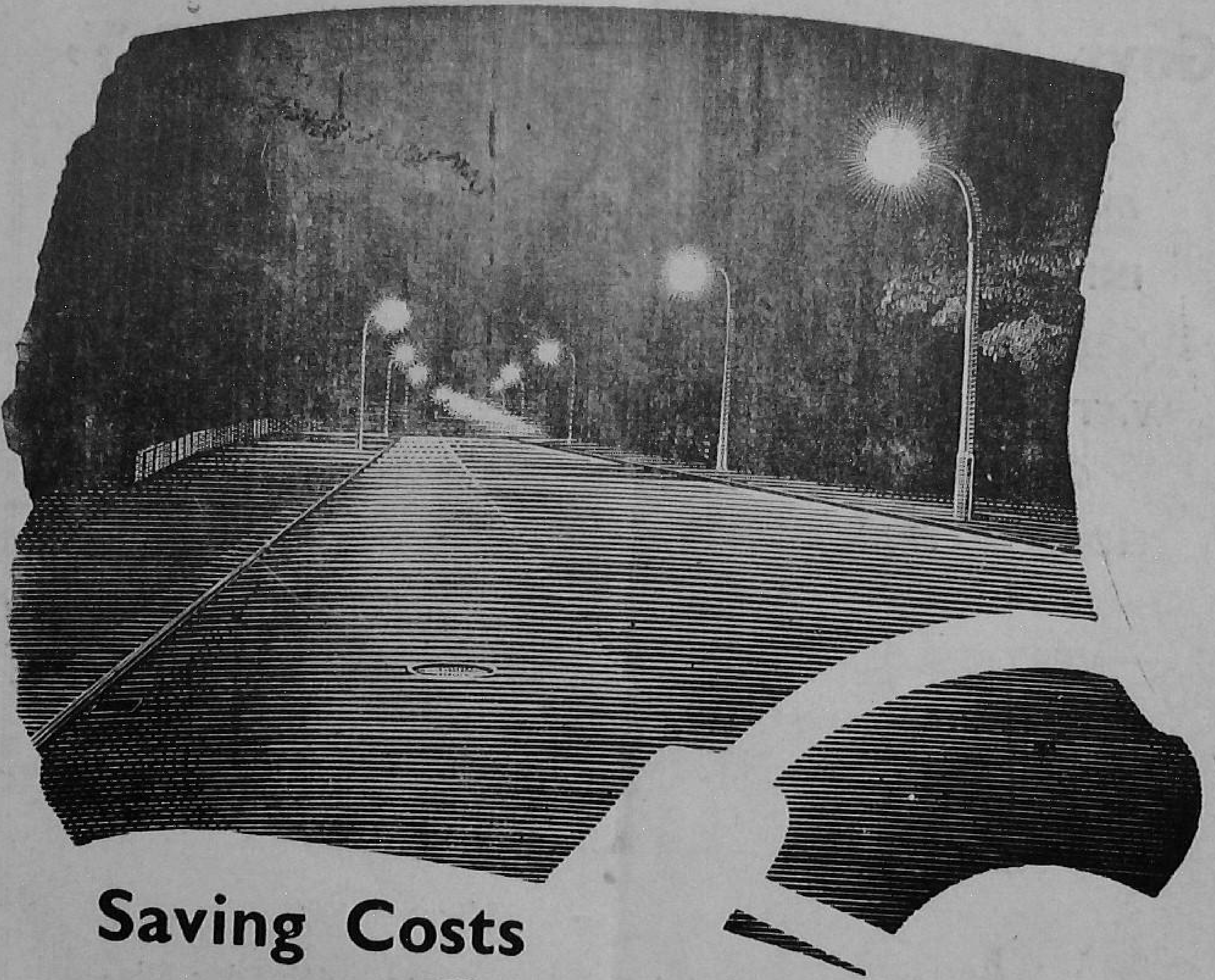

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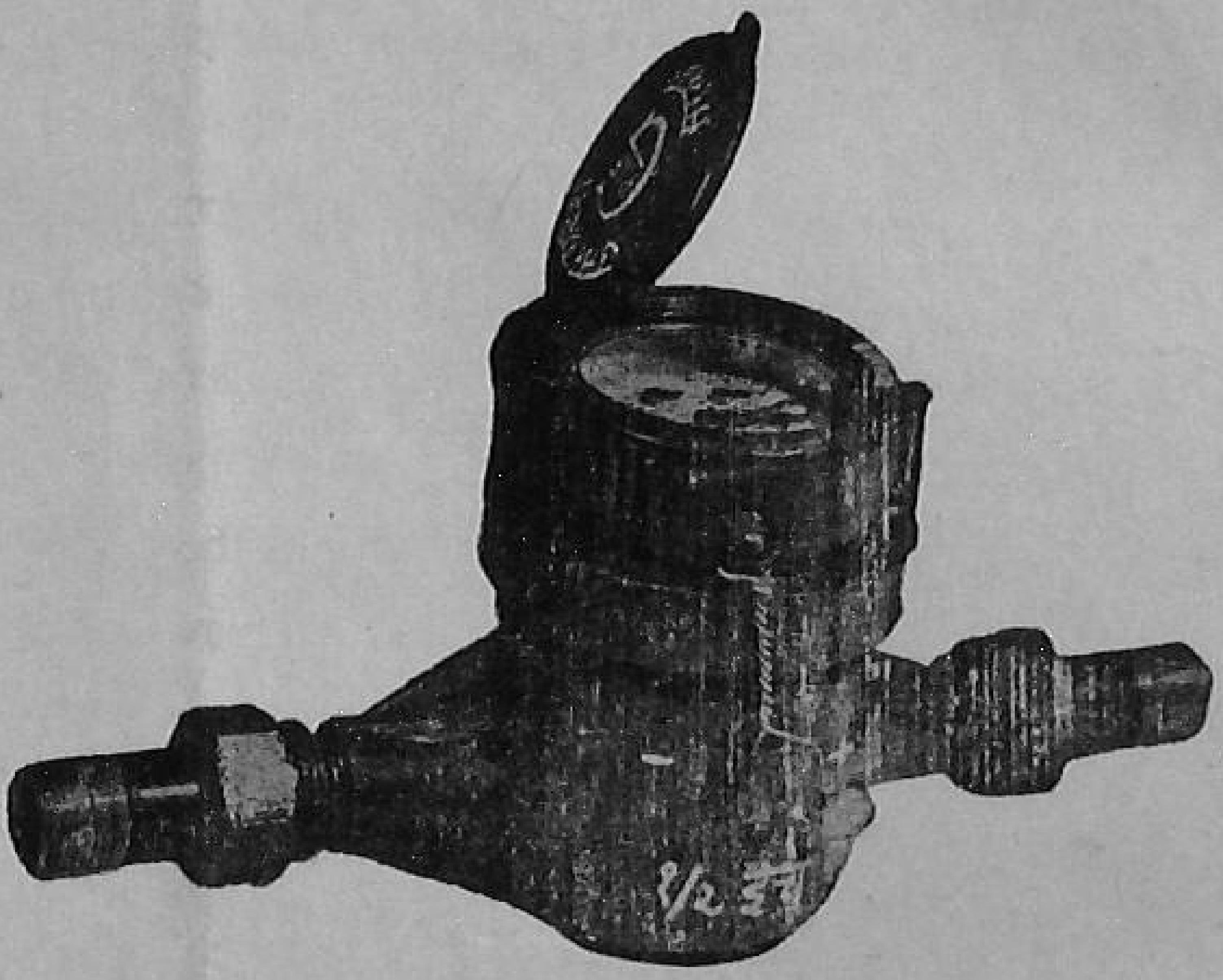

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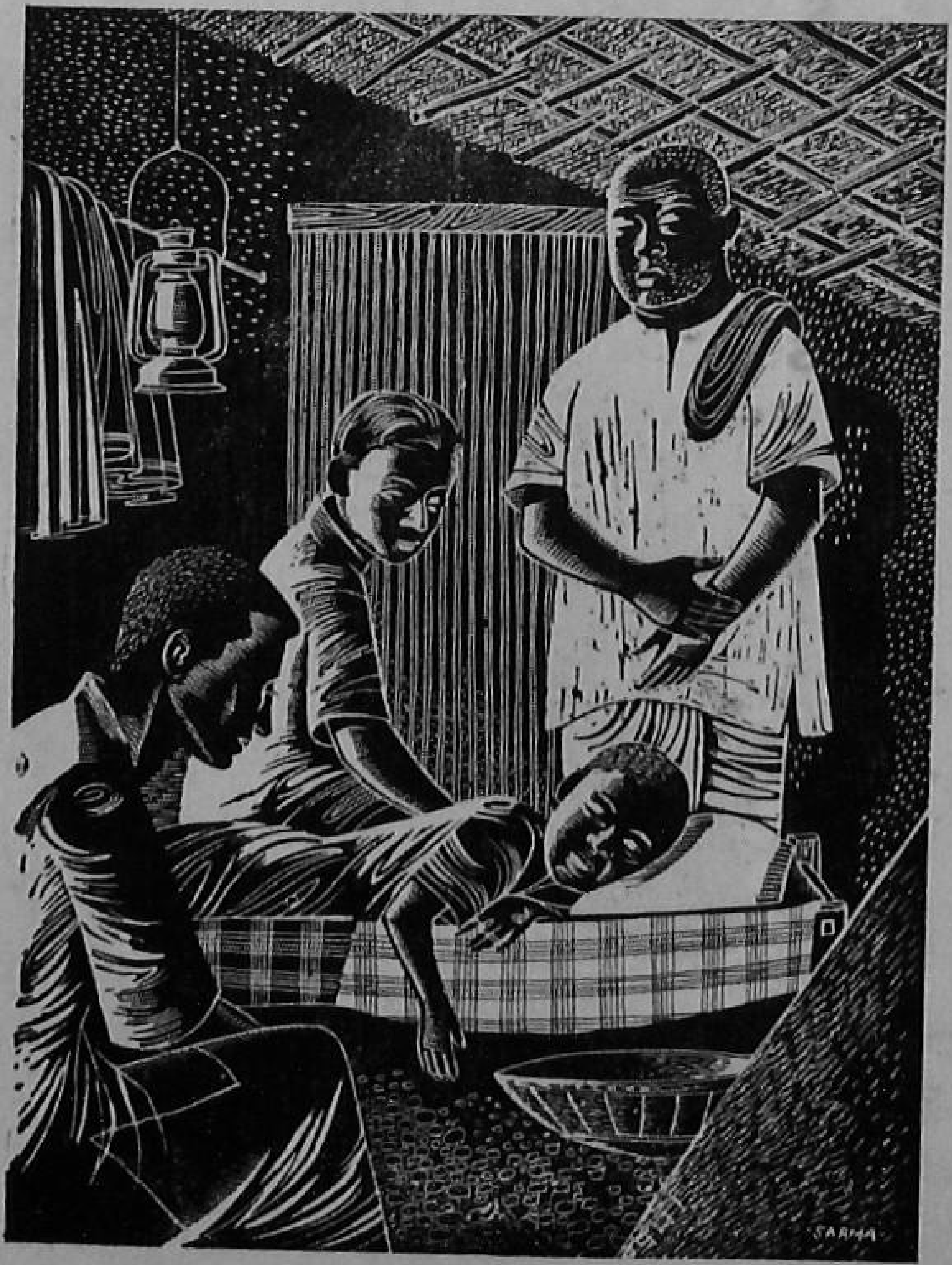

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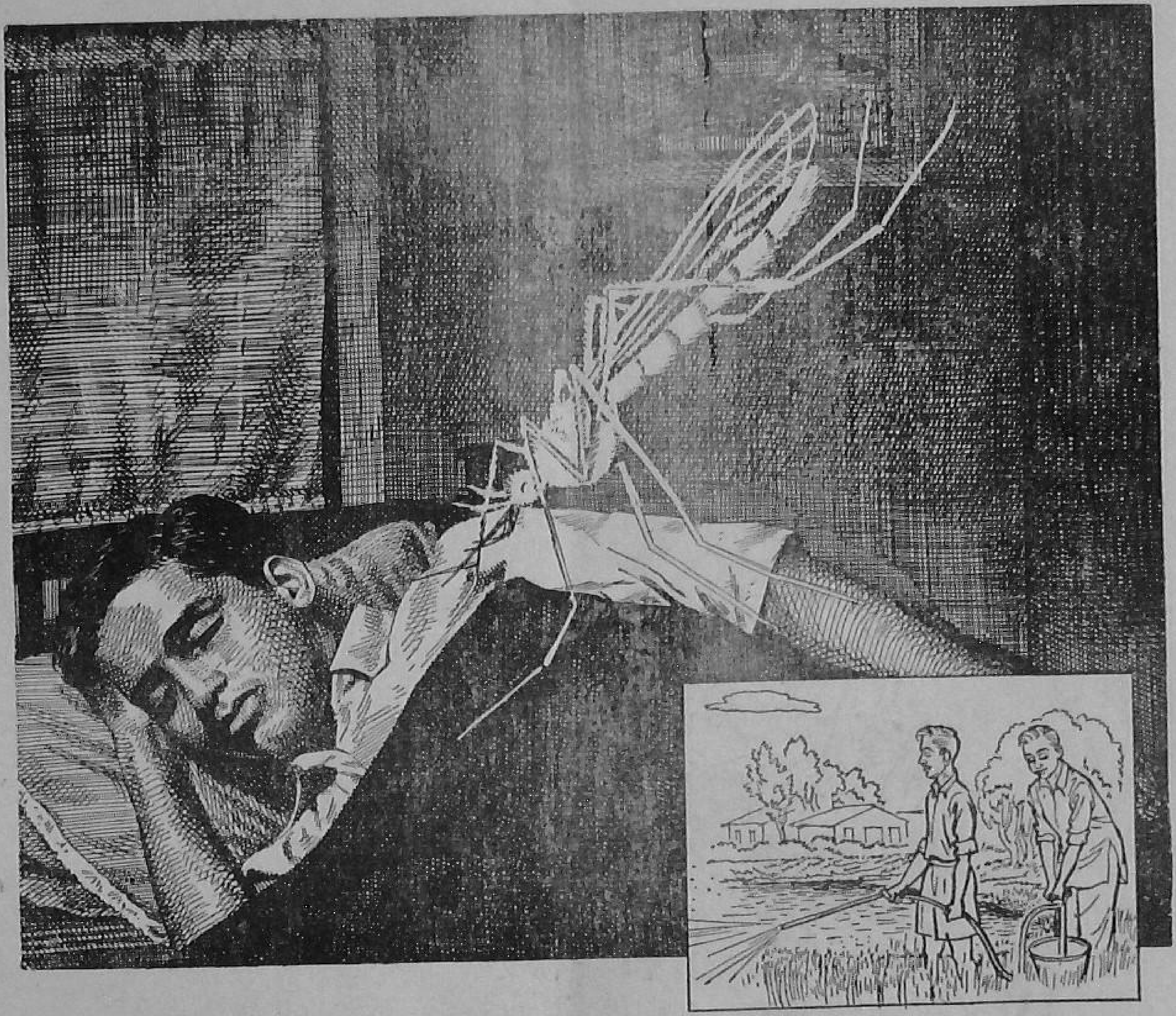

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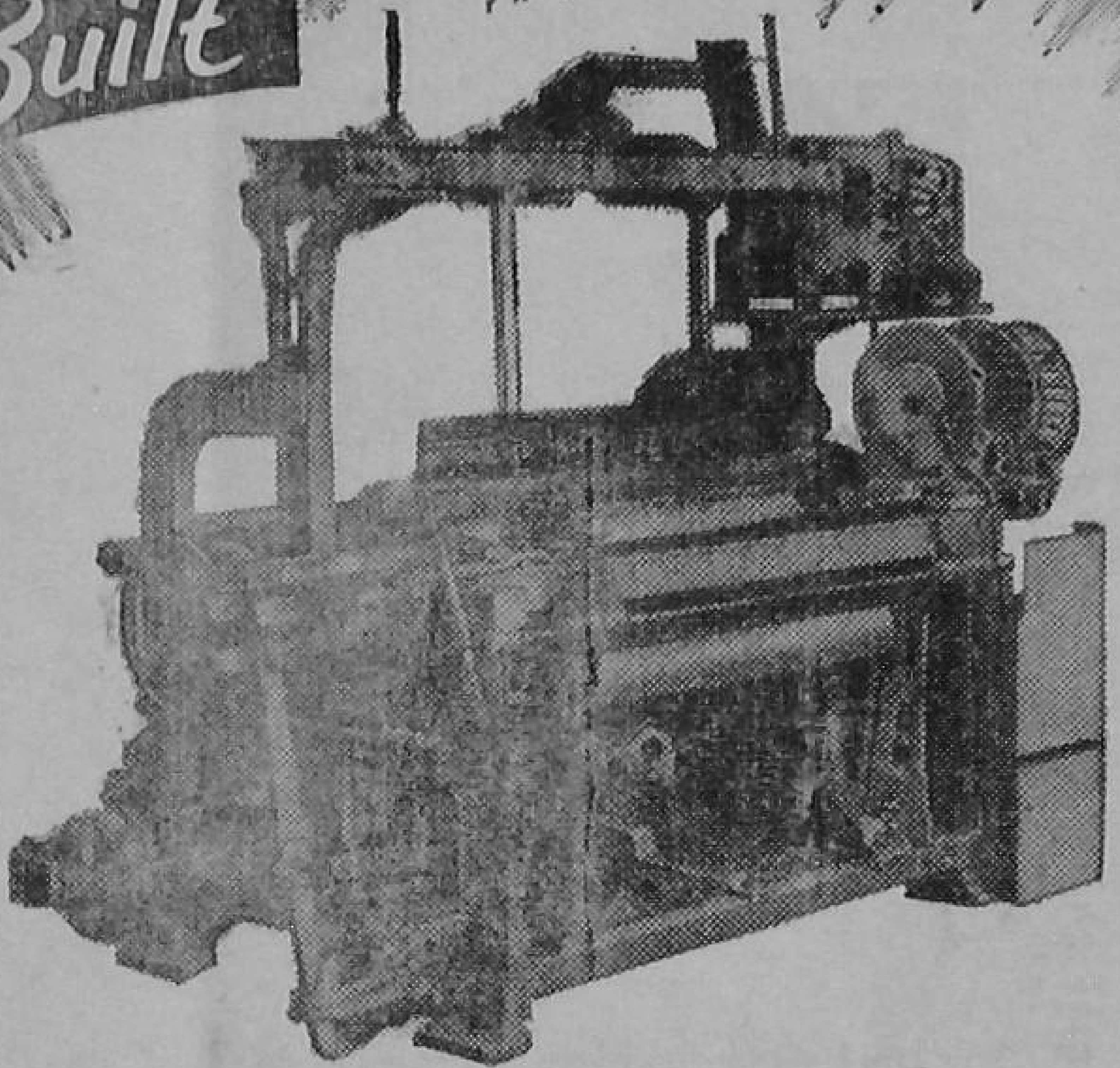

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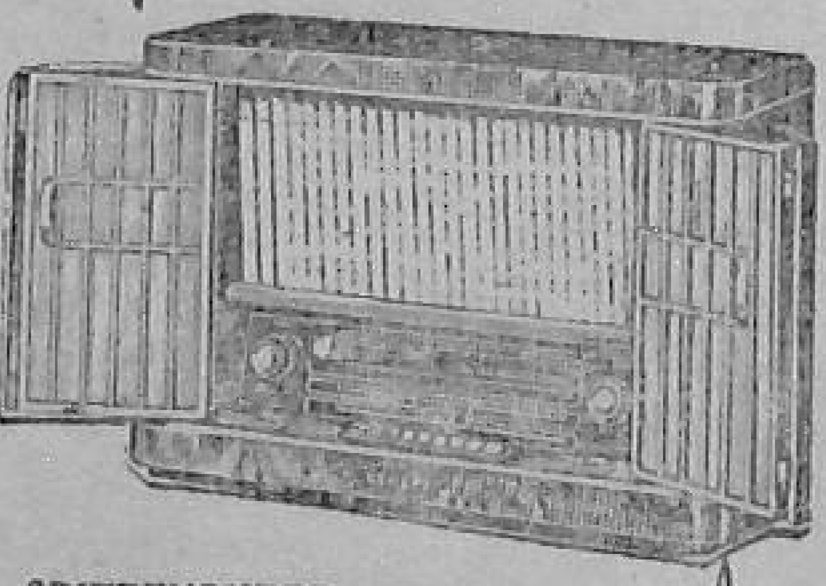

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CHANGING MAP OF INDIA

On November 1 a new map of India will emerge, the Parliament in September having given final sanction to the reorganisation of States by unanimously adopting the Bill for making the required constitutional amendments. There will be now 14 States and six Union territories, in place of the existing 26 States.

The distinction between the States, as those of Part "A," "B" and "C", will go and all the 14 States will be of equal status and will have similar powers and obligations. The reduced number and uniformity will lead to improvement in administration, it is expected.

The process leading to the change was lengthy and there was same acriomony in some parts of the country. Soon the latter will become a thing of the past, it is hoped.

An important result of the reorganisation is the disappearance of Delhi as a State and the decision to set up a Municipal Corporation there. This will fulfil a long cherished dream of the civic authorities of the Metropolis. This will also be the 15th Municipal Corporation in India.

A section of residents of New Delhi has been agitating in favour of retention of the New Delhi Municipal Committee as a separate entity and against its merger in the Municipal Corporation. The New Delhi Municipal Committee, which hitherto had an official majority, from this month has shrunk in size and has now a non-official majority, though nominated one. The Union Home Minister has indicated that for some time some parts of New Delhi, concerned with the Government business alone, may be kept out of the proposed Corporation.

Not all the Capitals of the 14 States in India will have Municipal Corporations. Only seven of these Capital cities have Corporations. The remaining seven Corporations represent certain important cities in the country.

With the attainment of uniformity in the pattern of States, it will be desirable to take up now the question of evolving a uniform system of Local Government in the country, and a common pattern of city government for the State Capitals and the other principal cities. The variations in local government are tremendous and these hamper a common outlook about many matters of national importance.

More Bureaucracy—Misuse of Staff Cars—Indo-Australian Co-operation—O & M In Local Bodies

The Parliament has discussed Dr. Paul Appley's Paper entitled, "A Re-examination of India's Administrative System." The Prime Minister has found much that is good in the Paper, which was intended to shake things up. He laid down: "The more socialist we become the more will bureaucracy grow." Under State Socialism, which India has adopted this tendency will be accelerated further.

While the increase in numbers of the bureaucracy is inevitable, watch must be kept on it so that it does not become so powerful as to dry up the springs from which democracy derives life. The bureaucracy is an able servant but a bad master.

Even the Communist countries in which bureaucracy has already grown bigger than it would ever in this country are fully aware of the dangers of too much bureaucracy, and of the need of keeping the numbers of bureaucracy at the lowest possible level, consistent with the needs. Thus we heard Mr. N. S. Khrushchev, report on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to the 20th Party Congress in February last:

> "The Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. and the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers have in the past two years taken important steps to simplify the structure of the administrative and managerial apparatus, reduce personnel and improve its work. As a result, the administrative and managerial apparatus has been reduced, according to available data, by practically 7,50,000 persons. It must be said that the administrative apparatus is excessively large, and the State spends huge sums on its upkeep. It is in the interest of the Soviet society to have more people working in material production — in mills and factories, in mines and on construction sites, in collective farms, machine and tractor stations, and state farms, wherever the national wealth is produced."

Again, in the report of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party to the 8th Congress of the Party in Peking this September, Mr. Liu Shaochi, made the following significant observations:

> "In keeping with the new situation in socialistic transformation and socialist construction, an important task in the work of the State to-day is to extend democracy further and to carry on a struggle against bureaucracy. In many of our State organs, there is a phenomenon of bureaucracy charactherised by arm-chair leadership which does not understand and which suppresses the opinions of subordinates and the masses and pays little attention to the life of the masses. The struggle against bureaucracy will be a long one. But we firmly believe that under our People's Democracy we shall be able gradually to eliminate the bureaucratic vices."

It is inevitable that the Government in India will grow bigger. It has been doing so every day in the last few years. It is inevitable that the State must employ more and more engineers, technologists and the like, as the Prime Minister observed. But there are certain special vices of bureaucracy with which people in this country are familiar, and if proper steps are not taken to eliminate them and to check their increase, there are certain inevitable dangers, which will grow bigger with the growth of the bureaucracy. The lessons learnt in the USSR and China should be a guide to us, in view of our special attachment to Democracy.

Misuse of Staff Cars

The Uttar Pradesh Government has taken serious notice of the misuse of staff cars by Government servants. There are at present more than 1,000 staff care—this being mostly a post-independence development, resulting from the State's launching on the numerous welfare

schemes. At first landrovers were provided to each District Magistrate to help in the Zamindari Abolition work. After the Zamindari was abolished it was felt that it would facilitate the work of administration if the District Officers were allowed to retain these cars on a permament basis. More and more departments had to be assigned staff cars as their officers were required to travel extensively. When last year the office of the Divisional Commissioners was revived, each Commissioner was given a staff car, in keeping with the digmity of the official, in which to travel about, as he had to spend the major part of the month touring in his Division.

Rules were made to prevent the missuse of the staff cars, but it has been difficult to enforce them or even comply with them. They are contradictory and have too many loopholes. An automobile has become a necessity for most of the officers, as for many others, instead of the luxury that it was at one time. Their salaries make the purchase and maintenance of cars in many cases difficult. The temptation to use the staff car for purposes for which it was not intended is too great to resist. In this respect good example has not been set by many high-ups.

The U. P. Government have found that some of their officers have been using the staff case as their private vehicles, even using them for long journeys with their families to such far away places as New Delhi; some of the officers have been drawing a travelling allowance as well as using staff cars. A directive has now been issued by the State's Transport Ministry that journey to and back from office by a Government official will not be treated as an official journey, and that he must pay to the Government for the use of the staff car if used for this purpose. The directive will obviously be difficult to enforce, and the matter needs looking into in a spirit of realism, rather than idealism. The use or misuse of staff cars has gone too far and any tightening up of screws would have to be gradual and sympathetic, if the purpose of it is not to be lost.

It is not unusual for officials to misuse staff cars even in a prosperous country like the United States of America. A recent press Conference of the President Eisenhower brought out that a certain General Swing, Commissioner for Immigration and Naturalisation, had used public transport to take his family and friends on hunting trips to Mexico. The matter touched on corruption in the Republican Administration and the President had a hard time in satisfying the correspondent who put him the question.

This only shows that the problem of misuse of staff cars by the officials is not peculiar to the Uttar Pradesh. It would be worth while enquiring what is happening in other States in India and in the Government of India in New Delhi, before framing proper rules for the use of staff cars by officials.

Indo-Australian Co-operation

Thanks to, among other things, the intitatve of Mr. R. G. Casey, once Governor of the Indian Province of undivided Bengal, and now Australia's Minister for External Affairs, there has been increasing co-operation and understanding between India and Australia. In token of this growing understanding between the two countries this month (October, 1956) India's Health Minister Rajkumari Amrit Kaur spent several days in Australia at the invitation of the Federal Government.

Australia's child health programme and research into tropical disease were two chief points of interest for our Health Minister while she was in Sydney for three days. She was impressed by the hospital facilities and health work she saw in Australia. The good health and complete lack of inhibitions in the children, she said, were a tribute to that country.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur is also President of the Central Council of Local self-Government in this country. Town planning and slum clearance problems have been receiving much attention from her in the recent months, and it was in fitness of things that while in Australia she should have

found time to visit also the Town Planning Department of Sydney University.

Latterly there has also been increasing appreciation in Australia of India's efforts and recognition that the two members of the Commonwealth have much to learn from each other.

The *Local Government*, a monthly journal for the promotion of Municipal enterprise, in Australia, has devoted considerable space in its issues of July and August to a review of the developments in the feld of local government in India. Referring to the views of Mr. Gapal Rao Ekbote, Hyderabad's Minister for Local Self-Government, on the problems of Local Government in India (as they appeared in the May issue of *Civic Affairs*), the *Local Government* said: "The views of India on that important subject (local government) are not static like so many countries in the Commonwealth, but show a refreshing measure of action to improve the existing set-up in India." Again in its August issue, the *Local Government* wrote: "It is evident that persons in India, responsible for the future local government in that country, are alive to the needs and responsibilities for effective progress in that field."

The journal also advised it readers: "In recent years it has been the duty of Australia to learn and understand the problems of S.-E. Asia and also to assist the peoples of these lands in any direction that help may be required. In order to do this it is essential that the movements in local Government in S.-E. Asia should be more widely known in Australia". It will obviously be to the advantage of India also if we learnt more about the problems of local government, and how they are being tackled in Australia and other countries in S.-E. Asia.

Sir Earle Page, a former Federal Minister of Health with whom our Health Minister had lunch in Sydney on October 2, had commended in May this year to the Australian House of Representatives the Indian Constitution as worthy of study when that House set up an all-paty committee to study all aspects of the working of the Australian Constitution and make recommendations for its improvement. The above only shows that there is no limit to the directions in which India and Australia stand to benefit by exchange of information and knowledge gained by the working of their various systems and institutions.

O. & M. In Local Bodies

The New Delhi Municipal Committee has decided to create an O. & M. Unit to promote efficiency in administration. Local Bodies are as much in need of improving their methods of work to promote efficiency and economy as the Central and State Government Organisations. In fact the shortcomings of local bodies become glaring sooner than of the higher government bodies, which are somewhat remote.

Bombay Corporation was the first among local bodies in India to go in for the services of a firm of efficiency experts to promote efficiency of the working of several of its wings. A few other local bodies have since then made use of this organisation, but on a smaller scale. Nothing more has been done in this direction. The Local Bodies, beset with many difficulties, have not yet become sufficiently efficiency-minded.

Drive for efficiency and economy will pay rich dividends. But this task, to be well done, must await the coming into existence at Central and State levels of bodies capable of giving detailed advice to the Local Bodies on their complex problems. Generalisation and theorising alone do not help much.

Bus Service in Capital

Bus transport in Delhi and its suburbs till 1948 was provided by the Gwalior and Northern India Transport Company Ltd. In May 1948 the Government of India took over the business of the Company and the Capital's bus service is now operated by the Delhi Road Transport Authority.

The Public Accounts Committee of the Lok Sabha in their latest report have passed strictures on the D. R. T. A. The three valuers responsible for the Compensation paid to the Company have come in for serious criticism. These had included a Finance Ministry Official and the present General Manager of the Delhi Transport Service and Secretary of the D. R. T. A.

BIGGER AND BIGGER GOVERNMENT

By **Paul H. Appleby,**

Consultant in Public Administration, The Ford Foundation

There is no lack of idealism or of great vision in India or in the Indian government. But far too much of the dynamism and imagination characterizing the setting of objectives is smothered in procedures dominated by small thinking.

In any large organisations the proportion of persons willing to assume individual responsibility is small. The willingness is the first evidence of executive ability. The building of individual responsibility contributes importantly to organizational responsibility. Here, by a curious proliferation of the conceptions of parliamentary responsibility and Cabinet responsibility and by reliance on excessive procedures of cross-reference there has been built an extraordinary evasion of individual responsibility and a system whereby everybody is responsible for everything before anything is done. In large and complex actions no one and no system can be really responsible for many of the actions *before* they are actions, even though responsible *after* the fact.

> **Section two (reproduced here) in Dr. Paul H. Appleby's Paper on Re-examination of India's Administrative System, with special reference to "Administration of Government's Industrial and Commercial Enterprises", deals with the problem of the growth and expansion of the Government. The first part of the paper that appeared in the September issue of the "Civic Affairs", had contianed the Introduction to the Problem. —Editor**

Heart of the Problem

The process of review here followed will be explored in some detail in the next section of this paper. In this section the intention is to indicate that near the heart of the problem is a failure to realize and understand that the Government of India— Central, State, municipal and rural— will and must grow greatly and rapidly in size, and that this growth compels changes in procedures of a sort directly related to size of government. Where here the thinking is big about social objectives, the thinking is small about the government whose great increase in size is essential to the effectuation of the great purposes.

Growth on War Time Basis

Growth of government here will be at a tempo-approached by other governments in the past only in urgent emergencies of war or under authoritarian power. An understanding of the phenomenon of growth, may be had, however, by compressing the view of total governmental growth occuring over a considerable period of time. This compression may be effected by comparing administration of the government of the United States, say in the period of George Washington's presidency with administration of the same government today.

An U. S. A. Example

As a simple example, one finds that both the President and the Secretary of State in the beginnings of the American government personally signed each patent issued on a new invention. Today, the Patent office is a bureau within the Commerce Department. Not only does the President not sign a single patent, the Secretary of State signs none. and the Secretary of Commerce signs none. Very rarely does the Commissioner of Patents personally sign a patent; they are signed in great numbers by subordinate civil service personnel working under the general direction of the Commissioner of Patents. Nowadays, in other words, the President holds the Secretary of Commerce responsible for the way in which patents are handled, the Secretary of Commerce holds the Commissioner of

Patents responsible, and the Commissioner of Patents holds a subordinate hierarchy responsible. Any one in the line of control may inquire into the propriety attending the issuance of any patent, or into the methods generally obtaining, and may either direct a change in methods and principles, or may modify or reverse a particular ruling. Indeed, both the President and the Secretary of Commerce maintain staffs which are continually engaged in after-the-fact scrutiny of the propriety and efficiency of the Patent Office and other bureaus under their general control, and the patent business even though having a volume beyond the dreams of Washington now is handled fully as responsibly as it was when the President gave it his personal attention. Indeed, if the President had not long ago given up the signing of patents and many other activities carried on by Washington the office of President would be much less responsible, much less able to deal adequately with modern business than the nature of modern governmental problems demands. One of the constant duties of the Bureau of the Budget, which is a part of the Executive Office of the President, is to find ever more activities which may be *delegated* so as to free the President for the personal handling of ever emergent, ever more complicated problems of greater importance.

Widening and Deepening of Hierarchy

Any identifiable task may be performed, if only the responsible organisation is so structured as to make the performance possible, As tasks become more numerous and difficult, the simple structural change that make their handling possible is a widening and deepening of hierarchy—the establishment of new subordinate levels to which more task, old and new, may be delegated. The maintenance and enlargement of responsibility is possible only by increase in size of organisation in this way, accompanied by an ever higher elevation of those at the top to make room for the levels inserted below. A President who should try to function today as Washington did would be swamped with detail, lost in confusion, and limited relatively to his own knowledge, his own physical energies, his own judgment. He would be an utter failure as President. A Congress that would consider legislation today in the same terms as Congress did consider legislation in the time of Washington, would be one without competence and without real power, helpless before the endless complexity confronting it.

Mental Reorientation

To effect the higher elevation necessary to the management of more and more complex business, a legislative body, a chief executive, a minister or any subordinate official must exercise organizational skill and achieve a mental reorientation. In the American Congress, for example, the functions earlier performed by Congress, as a body have been preliminarily delegated to sub-committees. The sub-committee works relatively intensively on the matters referred to it and then reports and recommends concerning them to the parent committee. The committee, after much more cursory consideration, reports and recommends to the Congress as a body which, in most instances, acts quickly in accordance with the committee's recommendations. At every stage the effort is to sift out and indentify really significant points of concern and to secure agreement concerning them in dimensions foreshadowing agreement at the level next higher. In additions to the use of delegation in this fashion, however, there is a consolidation of business into terms of greater magnitude. Thus, for example, while the budget of a single governmental department in 1932 amounted to about dollars 350 million and was considered by the Congress in terms of about 120 different "appropriecations", a dozen years later when the budget of the same department totalled about dollar 1.5 billion, it was considered by the Congress in only six appropriations. In other words the magnitude of items considered in the same fashion and in about the same period of time incrcased by 80 folds in a dozen years. It is this kind of increase which requires intellectual reorientation.

Where increase in size of government is effected gradually, most persons responsibly engaged in it will not be aware of the corresponding, gradual elevation in their own approach to the matters in hand. But when the tempo of growth is very rapid, the ch[illegible] in approach must be

consciously studied and courted. Because the designs here are great, the danger in failing to adjust detailed thinking and procedures to the great conception is especially threatening. Small thinking and cheapness in application can completely thwart the public purpose and the public good.

It is of the highest importance here that all leaders in party, parliament and private life understand that the government must grow rapidly in size—in numbers employed and in annual costs—and that this growth will be greater than, not less than, the estimate it is thought acceptable to publish. The phenomenon is one of a geometrical progression. In the United States, where technical training has been carried far beyond the point it has reached anywhere else and where more than 2.5 million young people are in college every year, there is today and prospectively a great shortage in engineers, in architects, in teachers, in psychiatrists, in medical doctors, in chemists, physicists, and in many other specializations. The shortage here will grow, not diminish. It is inconceivable that a generation hence India will find itself possessing surpluses of such personel. The needs will be great in both the private and the public sectors, but the public need will be central and primary, limiting the capacity of the government to grow, and therefore limiting its capacity to achieve. In such a condition anything pretending to be precise forward planning is futile and unnecessary except as such planning is done in terms of enlarging the capacity to produce such personnel to an expanding maximum. Any limitation of recruitment to small and definite cadres in the fear that jobs will not be available and for the sake of economy will be highly wasteful.

Once it is fully realized that the rapid enlargement of government is a basic essential, the necessities may be listed as follows:

1. Provide structually for new levels of co-ordination of larger and larger areas of inter-related undertakings, below the level of Cabinet and below the level of Minister.

2. Great enlargement in recruitment and training plans for generalist administrator and technical-administrator personnel.

3. **Cultivate growth capacity by structural and procedural arrangements.**

4. Generally reorient the present practices of review from a preponderantly negative concern for precedent and rupee-pinching to a positive one of expeditious action in pursuit of agreed upon objectives.

This section is particularly concerned about Item 3 above.

Effective Ways of Growth in Organisations

Not very much has been recorded of the learning experience has provided about more and less effective ways of pursuing growth in organisations. A few things may be dogmatically asserted by way of opening up the subject in an effort to stimulate further attention to it :

Military Organisations

1. There are great variations in the capacity of various parts of a government to expand. Necessity has called for great and rapid growth most often in military organisations, in which a basic structure that has been traced back to Alexander the Great has demonstrated extraordinary and dramatic expansibility. The basic structural unit is the squad under a corporal ; squads are grouped under sergeants, sergeants' units under lieutenants, lieutenants' units constitute companies, companies form regiments, regiments constitute brigades, brigades make up divisions. As the size of military operations increased divisions were grouped and new terms such as "army corps" and "army" came into common usage to identify larger aggregations. To put several armies under a single commander merely continues the process begun long ago in simpler and fewer terms and puts no more really unmanageable administrative burden on the commander than when

a brigade commander is promoted to head a division, even though the total strength involved and the activity directed may be several times multiplied. The military organisation thus provides the simplest and clearest picture of the all-but-universal hierarchy characterizing effective organisation everywhere—easily multipliable, with a clear chain of command and elements in the command flexibly deployable. As size increased there was only one major modification in the basic structure; this was a disproportionate and collateral increase in staff units surrounding commanders at successively higher levels assisting these commanders in the general management of their commands rather than themselves directing specific segments of the command.

British Parliamentary Type

It may be observed in this connection that the structures common to governments of the British-parliamentary type are peculiar in that the top executive under ministers are not characteristically hierarcal officers in the Alexandrian pattern. They are pre-eminently "secretaries to government" serving the multiple-head, Cabinet, in its collective responsibility as a peculiar intermediary between Minister, Cabinet, and the operating organizations. Somewhat lateral to the Secretary, thus is the Director General or some other operating head or heads. This arrangement, which is not likely soon to be much changed, makes the problem of expansion rather peculiarly difficult. Informally, however, the position of the Secretary here is undergoing a change which should be consciously accelerated. More and more officials—additional secretaries; joint secretaries, directors and managing directors — deal directly with ministers, thus providing ministers with broader perspective than communication with a single official could provide and at the same time accelerating decision-making. The Secretary **consequently, is becoming more and more an aide to Cabinet, and aide to the Minister, and a co-ordinator and chief of staff among a group of equals or near-equals. A rough rule might be that the Secretary should be strongest under a minister new to his post, and a year or so later should be** ***primus inter pares***".

Here, as elsewhere, however, some ministries and some other organisations of government can be more rapidly expanded than others. The difference may be attributed to differences in personalities, quality and amount of work already being done.

Additional Assignment To Existing Organisation

2. In general, a large and effective organisation can accept and conduct effectively a new assignment requiring additional structural arrangements and additional personnel more certainly and more rapidly than a wholly new organisation could be set up to do the same thing. The more such additional assignments given to it in a given period of time. however, the less certain it is that this organisation will perform its new duties well. In other words, the amount and tempo of expansion will have its limits. Expansion generally, however, can be carried furthest through competent old agencies than through new ones, and especially when the new assignment has programmatic relevance to old-established functions.

3. Since there will be some tendency for the new function to take second place in an old organisation, novelty of function and urgency of its need may dictate the establishment of a new organisation for the purpose. The choice almost certainly will be more costly, in terms of money, than the cost that would accrue by giving the assignment to an old organisation. But in the later sense of social need, this larger cost may represent true economy.

No Single Best Means

4. It follows that there is no single, best means for achieving expansion of the governmental organisation. In some instances greater utilization of private organisations may be useful; in other instances delegation to a State or States may be useful; in other instances expansion of an old organisation may be desirable; in still other instances establishment of a new organisation may be useful.

Consolidation of Organisations

5. In time, the total consequence, if uncorrected, will certainly be a total proliferation of special organisations within the government of such numbers and variety as to be unmanageable by government. It follows that in every marginal judgment, choice of expansion method should be in favour of expanding a going organization. It further follows that through the years to come there should be a persistent movement of consolidation of the special organizations according to some schemes of "coherent missions". For example, in the field of labour welfare there might be a movement toward grouping together for their higher co-ordination the separate organisations now in charge of the employee retirement fund, employment health insurance, and other welfare activities of similar sort. In the industrial field, development might be directed toward grouping together the three fertilizer plants and grouping similarly the three steel plants. At some point consolidation of domestic and international airlines might be considered. At a still later stage some other chemical industries could be associated with the fertilizer organisation, and so on. If enough such groupings are effected, there will be little likelihood of falling into the error of going to the extreme of consolidating all industrial corporations, or all commercial corporations into single, super-corporations.

6. Of major importance is the achievement of a structure which is in fact manageable by the respective ministers and by the Cabinet as a body. This means that there must be extensive delegation, an elevation of review procedures that will concentrate on concerns really important at high levels, and the use of new subordinate co-ordinating and expediter mechanisms.

7. An aspect of dictum No. 6 is that in the early days of a new enterprise the responsible Minister will need to give much more careful and relatively detailed attention to that enterprise than he will when its functioning is well established. It follows that each Minister should be trying to put the new organization in a condition where such close attention will no longer be required, so that he can elevate his relationship to it, turn his attention to other new matters and to matters of general significance to his high responsibility. The Minister who succeeds in this will be an outstanding example of one to whom additional enterprises may be assigned.

Practices of Review Hostile To Expansion

The seven dicta set forth in the preceding paragraphs relate to the general problem of growth in number and dimensions of programmatic agencies and are related rather exclusively to such agencies. **One of the most important single facts about the Indian government system in general is that the drive to expand and to fulfil Plan objectives is extra-ordinarily confined to such agencies, while the long-established practices of review in Finance, in Home Affairs, in the activities of the Comptroller and Auditor General, in Parliamentary committees, and in too frequent references to ministers and cabinets, are definitely hostile to governmental expansion and programme achievement.** The result is delay, frustration and confusion amounting to a subversion of top policy in a dimension which, while not determining in the period of the First Plan, could well mean the difference between reasonable success and substantial failure of the Second Plan if the delaying system of negation should extend over the enlarged programmatic area, much of which will be occupied by the new industrial and commercial enterprises. It is to this negative and delaying process of review that the next section of this paper is directed.

Existing Pattern of Service

In the present discussion of governmental expansion it remains to suggest that the existing pattern of job-titles and the rigidities of class, service, cadre, and grade pay differentials are all confining and, therefore, hostile to rapid growth. **Growth requires a widening and deepening of hierarchies, and in higher levels a progressive diminu-**

tion in the importance of professional and technical qualifications and distinctions. More basic is the fact that room must be made for the insertion into hierarchy of new levels to take care of new functions and to receive more and more delegations of responsibility. Patterns of terminology in existence here were established long ago and are steadily less responsive to structural needs. The primary necessity is to have a close and interacting relationship between each two contiguous levels—not sharp and wide distinctions—thus making for easy movement of abler personnel upward and in general facilitating communication.

Improvement In Hierarchies

Top salaries are largely to be determined by the number of levels below them and maintenance of differences as between levels to provide for incentive, to reflect differences in responsibility, and to indicate lines of control and review. When reform is discussed in terms of improving the quality of Superintendents or of Deputy Secretaries the very terminology limits the significance of the reform conceptions. Similarly, too many problems are covered up when so many persons are simply dismissed from mind by referring to them as "clerks." There are—and should be more—important differences between clerks, between stenographers, between assistants and between other subordinate personnel; they need to be better incorporated into the hierarchy. What is needed in other words, is an improvement in *hierarchies*. Improvement in the amount of work is one objective, better quality of work is another; expansibility is another; capacity to delegate is still another.

Snobbish Insistence on Standard of Training

Quality of work and expansibility are releated objectives, but not identical. More work can be performed in many instances by better utilization of existing energies. More work can be performed in other instances by employing personnel of kinds that are available rather than by trying vainly to hire personnel who are not available. For example, in all professional fields there is waste that arises from a snobbish insistence that no one but a person with full standard training can teach, or do certain work in the field of engineering, or in the field of medicine and health. Fully trained professionals waste their time doing things persons with much less training could do as well, and citizens fail to get services that otherwise would be available to them because the professionals are unwilling to make adequate use of enough varieties of subprofessionals. Here as elsewhere, any professionally-trained person will give lip-service to these declarations, and will assert that he is already doing all of this kind of delegating that can possibly be done. The fact is that in all professional fields here this kind of reform should be greatly advanced. This is only one special aspect of the general need to delegate which is stressed throughout this paper and which has crucial importance to institutional expansibility

Techniques of Review and Control

The sequel to delegation, of course, is the development of techniques for review and control of that which is delegated. Delegation is not abdication of responsibility; it is an enlargement of it. Inquiries into what has been done and what is being done, on a sampling basis, *replaces examination of everything proposed to be done.* Field trips and letters of inquiry and complaint provide supplemental insights which should be handled less by overriding specific decisions than to secure sample views of performance which, added to views developed hierarchally and through the staff of the Secretary—notably through the ministerial finance and business office and through the enterprise finance and business office—justify modifications in delegations or specific new directions, and provide a general judgment of strong and weak features of subordinate performance and of overall effectiveness. **It is only by development of competence below, and exercise of skill in utilization of subordinate abilities, that high responsibilities may be upheld.**

(To Be Continued)

Appleby Report In Parliament

Meant To " Shake Things Up "

The Lok Sabha on September 10 discussed for two hours the Report of Dr. Paul Appleby on a "Re-examination of India's Administrative System," on a motion of Mr. C. P. Mathen (Congress).

Mr. N. V. Gadgil (Congress) suggested that the discussion should not be concluded in the two hours allotted for it but continued to the next session.

The Prime Minister said he could not guarantee further time for discussion of the report in this session or the next. The House, however, should concern itself more with Dr. Appleby's criticism of Parliament than with that of Auditor-General, which formed a minor part of it.

A Private Document

Mr. Jawahar Lal Nehru disclosed that **Dr. Appleby's report was not a document to be published at all.** It was entirely a "private document which Dr. Appleby gave him and the then Finance Minister (Mr. C. D. Deshmukh) for their consideration" Dr. Appleby had said if the Government wanted to publish it he would have no objection. **The report, however, was not written from the point of view of publication and, for that reason, strong language was used in it "to shake things up."**

Mr. Nehru said the House should welcome it from that point of view because a "shaking up" was always required. Government had not yet fully discussed the report but considered it a very important document.

The report had spoken in eulogestic terms of the work done by Government especially in the conception of the First and the Second Five Year Plans. But there was criticism also of the administrative set up.

He said Government would have liked to have a discussion on the report after it had been fully examined by the various Ministries and the Cabinet. "Frankly we are in the middle of the examination. If I am asked to speak on it, it would be very brief. I have come to listen rather than to say anything mayself."

Earlier, moving his motion, Mr. Mathen said the recommendation was a "temporary emergency measure" for the period of the Second Five-Year Plan. He felt the critics of the report were "hurting the Plan." The Plan would not be fulfilled if radical changes were not made in the administrative system.

Mr. Mathen said the recommendations of Dr. Appleby should be implemented consistent with the Constitution. He suggested the formation of a high-level committee of Secretaries to work under the auspices of the Cabinet Secretariat, preferably directly under the Finance Minister, to consider the report. The committee should make such recommendations as would lead to the speedy implementation of the Plan.

Too Much Power to Bureaucracy

Prof. Hiren Mukherjee, Deputy Leader of the Communist Group and Mr. T.N. Singh (Cong.) resented Dr. Appleby's criticism of the work of the Comptroller and Auditor-General and his contention that Parliament was unduly interfering with the administration. They denied that there was any substance in these criticisms and declared that **if Dr. Appleby's ideas were put into effect, they would give too much power to the bureaucracy and deprive Parliament of its legitimate authority.**

Dr. Appleby, said Prof. Mukherjee, was unhappy that top administrators got "only Rs. 4,000 a month," but had not said a word about the large number of State Employees who got less than Rs. 100 a month. But it was exactly to the people lower down in the ladder of administration and to voluntary and popular organisations in the different localities and project areas that India must increasingly look to if she was going to have an administration producing results.

He suggested that a Committee of Parliament should examine Dr. Appleby's recommendations and report in two or three months' time.

Comptroller General and Politics

Mr. Gadgil said by and large Dr. Appleby's diagnosis of the present administration was correct. How far the remedies were likely to be effective was a matter which might admit of difference of opinion. The suggestions for delegation of responsibility were worth considering.

Mr. Gadgil said he did not know whether the Comptroller and Auditor-General had gone to the length of pronouncing on policy, which was Parliament's sphere of responsibility, "but in one of his speeches at Jaipur, I noticed an inclination towards this."

Anyhow, in the interest of efficiency of administration, it might be desirable to define once more precisely the functions of the Auditor-General.

Sweeping Allegations

Mr. T. N. Singh said some portions of Dr. Appleby's report were highly philosophical and one failed to understand what he was actually aiming at. So far as the Auditor-General and the committees of Parliament were concerned, they had faithfully and honestly tried to carry out what the country expected them to do.

Mr. Gadgil was an old and respected member of the House but probably he had not followed the work of the Public Accounts and Estimates Committees. Nowhere had these committees interfered in matters of detail.

It was "unfair" of Dr. Appleby to have made "sweeping allegations" against Parliamentry Committees and Pariliament itself without meeting those committees or even their Chairmen.

Interventing in the debate, Mr. Nehru said Government would like to arrange informal meetings of members of Parliament to discuss the report, time permitting, during the next session of Parliament.

Dr. Appleby was a person of very considerable experience of administrative procedures and structures not only in the Unitted States but in most of the countries of Europe and elsewhere. He also functioned as the Finance Minister of New York State though he was not called by that designation. All that did not qualify him to be the final judge in regard to administrative matters of this country but his opinion was entitled to be considered carefully.

Profited By Earlier Report

Mr. Nehru recalled the visit of Dr. appleby to India on three occasions and the reports he had prepared. Government, as a matter of fact, had profited by his reports greatly and made some improvements in their internal procedure in the Finance and other Ministries.

The organisation and Metho[illegible]ion was, more or less, started [illegible] of the consideration of the [illegible] by report and that organisation w[illegible]g good work.

Mr. Nehru said the whole [illegible]f Dr. Appleby's criticism was h[illegible]e administrative needs of India could [illegible]t to enable her to move rapidly in d[illegible]g with various problems. Dr. Appleby [illegible]d pointed out throughout that they could not do this satisfactorily in the frame work of the then administration, the one inherited from the British. **He had also paid a tribute to the quality of the present Indian administration and said it was as high as that of almost any country he had visited. From the point of view of purity of administration also, Dr. Appleby had said India came on the top with a dozen or so of the countries of the world.**

He said the administrative system in India was good enough but it was not fast moving. There were many checks and counter-checks with the result that delays occured.

Surprised and Satisfied

When he came a second time to India, Dr. Appleby expressed surprise and satisfaction that things had moved much faster than he had expected. According to him, people had worked hard. He, however, expressed the opinion that people could not be expected to over-work always and hence they should

make some changes in the administration to make it more progressive.

The Prime Minister declared that the Government of India were not interested in having any particular administrative framework but they were interested in getting the job done as quickly and as rapidly as possible. They were interested in going ahead with the Five-Year Plan speedily and they were interested in the purity of the administration.

"Therefore, we welcome all suggestions from any quarter and examine them and try to improve the administrative system. Nobody can say that the administrative system is perfect. Nothing is perfect." But at the same time, it had to be admitted that the administrative apparatus had adapted itself to the changed order in India.

Terrific Growth of Work

Mr. Nehru said the work of the Government of India today had grown in geometric proportion not in arithmetic proportion, in an astonishing manner The growth of work was "terrific." It had increased by 50 times or even a 100 times.

He stressed the need for trained engineers, techinical personnel and officers, and said Government were faced with this problem constantly. "No doubt" he declared, "we will be producing this trained manpower in much larger quantity than now. **In Soviet Union 75,000 engineers are produced a year. We may not produce 75,000 but we will produce 5,000 or 10,000.** In the Soviet Union they have 2,50,000 science teachers. They attach much importance to science and technology. The whole trend of administration and modern life is changing and our administrative system will have to adapt itself to it and it cannot go on as it has been in the past".

Mr. Nehru said American as well as Soviet experts visiting India had exactly the same criticisms to make about the administrative system in India. They disliked all the checks and balances in the administration.

More Bureaucracy Inevitable Under Socialism

Referring to Prof. Mukerjee's criticism that the machine of bureaucracy would crush the spirit of man, Mr. Nehru said "I do not know what he would call the machine governing the Soviet Union at the present moment."

"The more socialistic we become the more will bureaucracy grow. That is the inevitable result of Socialism. It is obvious, Bureaucracy in India in the old days meant the Indian Civil Service but ideas were changing now. The I. C. S. was gradully fading out. An entirely new invasion was taking place to the bureaucracy now and it was the invasion of engineers, techonologists and like. They were coming in large numbers and they would continue to come in large numbers. Time may come when you will be using them not in thousands but, if I may use the word in millions—not even in hundreds of thousands. And your Government will be more and more bureaucratic in the sense".

Delegation of Authority

Mr. Nehru said Parliament in the U. K. today was completely different from what it was in the 19th century. Through compulsion of events, Parliament could not deal with certain matters so much in detail. When there were a number of State Corporations, it was patent that Parliament would never have the time to look into each and everyone of them though it had the power to do so. **Therefore, they had to evolve methods by which, while there were adequate checks, at the same time there was full initiative to go ahead.** In the last year or two Government had been delegating authority progressively. "We are going a little more slowly. We feel that delegation of authority to Corporations should be done always keeping checks and controls as far as possible."

He promised to place before the country the steps taken by Government from time to time in this direction.

Mistake not to Delegate Authority

Mr. Nehru said the Soviet Union was also constantly struggling with the problem of how much authority to delegate and not to delegate.

Both while he was in the Soviet Union and Soviet leaders came to India, they expressed the view that India made a great mistake in not delegating authority to the man on the spot.

As regards Dr. Appleby's recommendation that there should be more delegation of authority to Joint, Deputy and Assistant Secretaries, Mr. Nehru said this was exactly the type of Government that both the U. S. and the Soviet Union had today

Rajya Sabha Debate

The report was discussed in the Rajya Sabha on September 11 on a motion of the P.S.P. Member, Mr. R. P. Sinha. The Sabha rejected an Opposition amendment to the motion for discussion expressing disapproval of the report and urging appointment of a Parliamentary Commission to investigate the administrative structure.

P.S.P. Critism

Moving the motion for consideration, Mr. R. P. Sinha said it was apparent from the reading of the report that **Dr. Appleby made no serious efforts to understand the various wings of the Parliamentary system and the main safeguards provided by it. He had no discussion with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India to understand the country's audit organisation. He got no elucidation from the Chairman of the House or any other important person of Parliament as to how Parliament maintained and discharged its major responsibility towards accountability of the executive to the legislature. "Without bringing any informed mind to the subject," Dr. Appleby passed some sweeping remarks against the two most important ingredients of democracy—Parliament and the Auditor-General, he said.**

Mr. Sinha said that Dr. Appleby was rightly critical of the negative, repetitive and purposeless review in the Secretariat system and his prescription was that there should be greater delegation of power and responsibility. He wanted Government to accept this suggestion.

Mr. Sinha was opposed to Dr. Appleby's suggestion that recruitment of technical personnel should not be through the Union Public Service Commission.

Mr. Surendra Mahanty (Dem.) moved an amendment to the consideration motion asking the House to disapprove of the observations and recommendations of Dr. Appleby. He said after going through the report he was convinced that **it sought to demean Parliament.**

Dr. Appleby's report on the Indian administration, Mr. Mahanty said, was highly irrelevant. How could Dr. Appleby who occupied a very important position in the Interior Department in the U. S., appreciate the Indian administrative system built on British Pattern.

Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, leader of the Communist group, described Dr. Appleby's report as **an "insult" to Indian genius and an "ignominious document."**

Essay In Cold-blooded Arrogance.

"It is an essay in cold-blooded arrogance," he said. "The author puts on airs and talks at the Indian people as if we have no background for understanding our administrative problems." The Prime Minister was "ill-advised" to certify the report as an important document.

He was a little surprised. Mr. Gupta said, that the Prime Minister supported bureaucracy in the Lok Sabha the other day. "I have seen his own autobiography and he has very strong things to say about bureaucracy. I do not know since when it (bureaucracy) has given up the path of sin and taken to virtue. **We do not want any bureaucracy in this country because we have had bitter taste of bureaucracy."**

What was of vital importance for improving public administration, Mr. Gupta said, was to democratise the administration. Initiative had to be developed at the lower level by entrusting more responsibility to the officials at lower levels and by giving

them recognition. He conceded that the administration required more and more Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries but most work going in their name was done by men in the lower rung of the administrative ladder. But unfortunately their efficiency was not given due recognition nor any incentive which was required for toning up the administration given to them. "This is something which the American doctor compeltely misses," he said.

Mr. Gupta stressed the need for Parliament to have the right of reviewing the work of officers in charge of State undertakings. "When you give them too much power to do things as they like they make a mess of things. That is the experience of so many institutions that are run under the aegis of Governments."

Change In Outlook

Mr. Gupta said a change of outlook was needed in running public undertakings. He was totally opposed to either bureaucrats or representatives of "big money" being placed in positions of authority in public undertakings. "Are we running public undertaking in order to find accommodation for super-annuated officers or worthless sons of big business? I say, reject that outlook, it is not in keeping with the spirit in which you are supporting expansion of public sector in the country."

The report on the whole, Mr. Gupta said, did not deserve their serious consideration. He wanted a Parliamentary Commission to make a probe into the public administration. He also wanted consultation by Government of Opposition parties on administrative matters.

Mr. Vijay Singh (Cong.)—said the Civil Service had by and large adapted itself to changed conditions but nevertheless a tinge of the colonial rule still remained and in that regard some improvement was needed.

Mr. S. Bisht (Cong.)—said the House should welcome the "friendly" advice of Dr. Appleby. The expert was right in saying that system of budgeting was defective.

Prof. A. R. Wadia (Nominated) said that if Dr. Appleby had taken a more detached and dispassionate view of the administration, the report would have been better. The way he had made "unnecessary remarks against Parliament and the Auditor-General almost created suspicions that he was standing up for some party."

Mr. Chandulal Parikh (Cong.) said the administration left much to be desired. While criticising it, "we should also praise them, otherwise it creates timidity in the services and they lose the morale to take decisions."

So far as the management of Govrnment industrial undertakings were concerned there should be a better scale of pay and a better system of promotion to attract talent.

Mr. P. N. Sapru (Cong.) said the suggestion for delegation of power was a question deserving careful consideration. So was the question of the powers exercised by the Auditor-General. His function was to see that the monies voted by Parliament were properly spent by the executive. His control worked as a healthy check in a Welfare State as in a Police State.

Mr. Sapru suggested representation of consumer interests in the directorates of public commercial concerns and constitution of a committee of members of Parliament or a high-powered commission with members of Parliament, administrators and some "statesmen of ripe wisdom" to go into the questions posed by the Appleby report.

Background of Administration

Mr. B. C. Ghose (P. S. P.) said some of the observations of Dr. Appleby were very good and thought-provoking, but Dr. Appleby had not given any positive suggestion superior to the suggestions and proposals made by experts in the country. It was a sad reflection of their own character, Mr. Ghose said, that when they had other "materials presented before them like the admirable account of the Comptroller and Auditor-General appended to the Civil Audit Report, they were not taking advantage of that opportunity to have a discussion on the subject but had awaited until a foreigner had made certain provocative statements.

He said Dr. Appleby had not had sympathetic appreciation of the background of the administrative machinery nor had he the full data for arriving at correct conclusions.

Mr. Ghose said that improvement should be made in the structure of the administration with a view to seeing that the development projects were executed expeditiously and efficiently. For this there should be proper delegation of power.

Prime Minister's Speech

The Prime Minister, who made an hour-long speech, said India had now to deal with the question of how the parliamentary system of government was to be adjusted to the needs of rapid industralisation. Problems of administrative reorganisation should be considered in this context.

Mr. Nehru drew attention to technological changes necessitating improvemets in the administrative structure, and said the uniqueness of India's task arose from two things: namely, adaptation of democratic methods to their aims and the fact that the average man should be given a share in the industrial progress.

Mr. Nehru stressed the need to see that things undertaken were achieved. There should be "an audit of achievement". The functioning of the comptroller and Auditor General was highly important but a scientific achievement should be judged by a scientific man.

In a reference to the functions of the Public Service Commission in the context of India's requirements, the Prime Minister said that specialised Boards, like a scientific Board an Industrial Board should be associated with the Commission while choosing technical personnel.

Mr. Nehru said the Report should be studied in the context of changing conditions in the country and the world.

He pointed out that today Government and Parliament were taking far more interest in social and economic problems. They dealt with questions like industrialisation and the implementation of the Five-Year Plan—things which the old administrative structure did not envisage.

Purposes of Govt. Different Now

Dr. Appleby had said that the system was good for the purposes for which it was created. But the very purposes of the Government were different now.

Taking all in all, Dr. Appleby had said that the administration of India was among the msot efficient, in the world. At the same time he had pointed out how, according to his thinking, the pace of the country's advance could be increased. Suggestions in this regard had been made by others too. The result was that a number of changes in the administrative apparatus, at the Centre and to some extent in the States, had been brought about. The Organisation and Methods Division had heen set up to consider these matters from day to day.

"We are in a changing state of transition." Mr. Nehru said "and I do not know how I can put across to members this sensation of change that is going on in the world today."

It is not a problem of India alone. We have our special problems. But take the United Kingdom. **Only yesterday I read a long article as to how the old administrative system of England is geting conservative and backward.**

"We are Reactionaries"

"We may call ourselves revolutionaries, leftists, extremists and what you like, but in fact we are very reactionary in our thinking, reactionary in the sense that we take the world as it is more or less. We want to change it no doubt. But we don't realise the enormous changes that are taking place chiefly because of scientific and technological improvements which affect the whole industrial apparatus of the country and the lives of every body ultimately."

India had to catch up with the industrial progress made elsewhere during the last 200 years. But more rapid changes were taking place in other countries. The pace of atomic force was producing revolutionary changes in Western countries and upsetting the social balance. It was clear that the administrative set up had to adjust itself to these mighty

changes. The 19th Century set up in England was not good enough in the 20th Century.

To Start From Scratch

In India there was an additional problem. India had to start almost from scratch. A few hundred textile mills in Ahmedabad or Kanpur did not make a difference. The basic thing was not textile mills but steel mills.

India had to catch up in industrial, economic and scientific development and "what is more, having caught up we have to adjust ourselves to the new things that are happening."

"I don't think it would be an exaggeration to say that a new world is being created in terms of scientific change and progress, in terms of vast elemental forces of nature which are coming under man's control. When all these things are happening, the administrative apparatus has to be adjusted to them. How, I can't say. But to take the view that everything is good in a good world is not a satisfactory way of understanding anything or doing something."

In the final analysis, the basic question was of having technical personnel. Training them required a long time. It was said that in the Soviet Union there were 2,50,000 science teachers. It was not the number that counted so much as the fact that the whole bent of education was towards science and Technology. The structure should adjust itself to this need also.

"Unfair To Blame Appleby"

The administration here might compare very well with some other systems in the world. But that did not mean that "all will be good tomorrow and the day after if we continue in the same groove and action. I, therefore, welcome men of experience and training coming and telling us what they think about it. Is is upto us accept or reject that."

"It seems to me unfair for anyone of us to blame Dr. Appleby because he comes here at our invitation and gives us frank advice. Actually this was not meant for publication. But I decided the report was thought-provoking, which should be considered by Parliament."

India Has Done Very Well

In his first report, Dr. Appleby had made "rather strict criticism" about various matters and said that unless this or that was done, the country's progress would be slowed, Mr. Nehru continued. The second time he came, he said, "I must say I was mistaken in the sense that I find that in spite of my apprehensions, you have made that progress which I thought you would not be able to make." Again he said the same thing : "It is surprising you have done infinitely more than what I thought you would do. You have done very well, but you have done it because relatively a small number of people have worked very very hard and you cannot rely on a small number of people working very hard all the time. Therefore, you must broaden the base."

Oddly, enough, it was quite remarkable how many of the criticisms about various administrative system here were similar. The criticisms made by Americans and people from Russia were similar. In their economic thinking they were far apart. But both wanted to remove delay.

The main thing, Mr. Nehru said, was that a thing undertaken should be achieved. Of course, other things were also important. There was no doubt that there should be checks on public funds but if there were checks before the expenditures were done and the thing was not done, "you have not done what you wanted to do. The matter ends there. Obviously, audit and other checks are essential. But one of the things which we have not got is audit of achievement—has the thing been done or not ?"

Parliamentary System

"We perfer the Parliamentary system of Government," he said, "and we propose to adhere to it. But nevertheless the question comes up as to how the whole parliamentary system of Govern-

ment is to be adapted and to be adjusted to the rapidly moving machine of new India rapidly industrialising itself."

There were two instances of countries having industrialised themselves. In one case, the process was a long-term one of 200 years or so during which the West European countries industriallsed themselves. The other was the Soviet method of going through industralisation in 20 or 30 years following a different method. It should be remembered that in the first instance, the countries had industrialised themselves before they had what could be called a really democratic system of Government. They might have had their Parliaments but Parliaments represented probably 10 or 5 per cent of the population. It was only in the 20th centuary that they got adult iranchise. In othor words, they achieved fndustrial progress before popular forces had arisen to share in the industrial progress.

"We have got political democracy before the industrial progress here," he said. "The process has been reversed. In a sense it is advantageous, but at the same time the fact remains that political democracy does come in the way. Why? Quite rightly because the average man wants to share in the political and industrial progress and thereby you cannot easily, as England did in the past, accumulate surplus for industrial progress by denying it to the common man. We can't do that; we don't want to do that."

Mr. Nehru said the only other way was the Soviet way where in the course of a generation or generation and a half, they made tremendous progress by establishing certain structures or pursuing certain methods which were not normally called democratic. He was not criticising any country. But India was following a path which was unique. The future would show how far India succeeded in solving her problem in her own way. At the same time, it had to be been how far "the democratic way has to be adjusted to our aims." Nineteenth Century British democracy was very slow-moving, and the State seldom interfered with economic matters or social matters. Today, in England Parliament was concerned with infinitely more work in regard to social and economic matters. The problem had come before the British Parliament and every democratic Parliament in the world as how to adjust the democratic procedure to the rapid changes. For India, the problem was more difficult because the pace had to be more rapid. Therefore, it had to be realised that the old style political democracy had to adjust itself to the modern pace of the country and the world.

Mr. Nehru added: "The question is whether our structure is adequate. We have thought in terms of administrators in the past. Now when we have to deal with plants factories, scientific institutions and the like, it may be that the quality required is more of engineering and scientific quality. May be in future many of our administrators will be engineers or with a good deal of engineering training. In that sense, the adequacy may be lacking because new types of knowledge are necessary. These are highly important questions to be considered."

Role Of Public Service Commissions

It was a good idea, he said, that there must be a body of impartial men to choose public servants. Yet "we come up against difficulties all the time apart from the fact that the Public Service Commission cannot keep with events. We want engineers in the next fortnight; they cannot produce them for six months, may be twelve months. It is not their fault but it is excess of work. There is another thing—I am not referring to the present Commission as it works, it has changed somewhat—that the old conception of the Public Service Commission was readily for purely administrative purposes. But when it comes to choosing high class statisticians, all that they can do is to examine paper qualifications. Therefore, the P. S. C. has rightly itself attached specialists to help them to choose. It may be the P.S.C. may gradually develop into several boards, Scientific Boards, Industrial

Management Board, all under the P.S.C. but doing specialised jobs.

Mr. Nehru said administrative questions had been under discussion for a long time. There was the Gorwala Report, and a report by the late Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar. The Comptroller and Auditor-General had made various suggestions. That report was considered by the Cabinet and some things were adopted and some were not. It was a virtue to keep an open mind and be receptive to and consider all things. The Comptroller himself had laid considerable stress on the devolution of authority. All these things could be considered from various points. They should not be made a personal issue against the P.S.C. or against the Accountant-General. These were points on which "we hold strong opinions this way or that. We proceed by trial and error."

Avoiding Delay

Mr. Nehru said **Dr. Appleby had pointed out that delay should be avoided. The number of top-ranking and competent persons, heads of institutions, etc., were limited in every country. If they were asked to spend their time in trivial things, they were wasted. The ability of such people must be put to the best advantage.**

Government attached greatest importance to the functioning of the Comptroller and Auditor-General. But a scientific achievement could be judged by a scientific man.

Mr. Nehru said Dr. Appleby had made a criticism of the parliamentary procedure. The important point to be remembered was "because of tremendous growth of work in Parliament, and appertaining to Parliament it is becoming difficult for members to have the time and leisure to deal with it. The question is one of utilising the time we have to the best advantage."

"The Central Authority is Parliament. It has the right to check everything. But the point does arise, that if it ties itself up with innumerable details, the bigger things will escape it. From this point of view, the whole context of parliamentary procedure has changed in the past.

"We have got our system. Basically we think it is a good system. It should continue. Personally I think one of the most valuable practices of our parliamentary system is the question hour. I think it is highly important, as well as the right of members to raise debates on any particular question. But we have to face the question : How to use the time to the best advantage ?"

Informal Discussion With M.Ps.

Mr. Nehru said Government were considering Dr. Appleby's report. It had, however, not yet been placed before the Cabinet. Government wanted that is should be digested by various Ministries and State Governments. The Cabinet would no doubt consider it. He would welcome informal discussion with members of Parliament in regard to problems raised by the report, something like the discussions on the Plan.

Mr. Ghose asked Mr. Nehru what he had to say in regard to the statement in the report that Parliament seemed strongly inclined to make too ready concessions to some of interests and enforced corresponding changes in Government's decisions.

Mr. Nehru said that had nothing to do with bribery or corruption. It meant that in Parliament various interests were represented and they took up a lot of time for pressing their points of view.

Second Five Year Plan: "Audit of Achievement"

The Lok Sabha on September 13 passed a Government resolution according general approval to the Second Five year Plan as prepared by the Planning Commission.

The Prime Minister, speaking on the Plan, said it was very necessary to organise audit of achievement and for this the statistical apparatus must grow and was growing.

One of the difficulties against which the planners were now coming up was the manpower shortage. This ought to have been thought of during the first Plan and not at the beginning of the Second Plan.

Audit Not "A Highly Pedestrian Function"

—A. K. Chanda

Mr. A. K. Chanda, Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, in his address to the annual meeting of the Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, in New Delhi on September 13, said that audit was universally recognised as an honourable profession and as an essential adjunct in any political or administrative system and in any industrial or commercial organisation. He said it was unnecessary to attach exaggerated importance to, or be perturbed by, criticism such as "audit is a highly pedestrian function with a narrow perspective and very limited usefulness." He added: "Such a narrow and restricted conception of audit has neither been convassed nor seriously considered elsewhere."

Experience of other Democracies

Mr. Chanda told the Council that while benefiting by the experience of other democracies and taking note of progressive trends elsewhere, "we must work out our own salvation by adopting procedures and practices which are appropriate and suitable to the needs and requirements of our expanding economy, and in keeping with the the evolution of our political, administrative and financial systems".

"When conditions were not comparable, and the social objectives were vastly different, the treatment must necessarily be different", he added.

Basic Purpose

Mr. Chanda said that the basic purpose of the organisation of the Comptroller and Auditor-General and public auditors was the same—to inspire in the public or the investors confidence in the stability and soundness of organisations.

Speaking on the basic differences between the structures of public and private enterprises, he said that, while in the case of private enterprise, those in control had a significant financial stake in the concern, and were also vitally interested in its financial operations, there was no such incentive in the case of State undertakings. They were managed by officials without any direct financial interests, whose emoluments were not affected in any way by the degree of efficiency and economy of the undertakings they administered.

Working of State Enterprises

Former Commerce Minister's Criticism

Mr. C. H. Bhabha, Chairman of the Eastern Shipping Corporation, and former Union Commerce Minister, speaking in Bombay on September 18, said a tendency to treat State enterprises in India "as a refuge of party men and relatives and others connected with the powers that be" was noticeable. In the manning of this institution, "some of the worst features of jobbery and nepotism, occasionally noticeable in the Governmental machinery itself, seem to be injected with a great vigour and at a very heavy cost to the nation."

He declared that an unparalled threat was facing State enterprises. He alleged that there was "all too frequent interference in its normal functioning from the most unwanted and undesirable quarters." Since a large amount of the nation's money had been used for that purpose, "politicians and their entourage treat these enterprises as their happy hunting ground for their personal benefits and profits."

He said that while the Constitution guaranteed the right to own property, in actual practice, "our great leaders seem to look upon with suspicion and distrust the ownership of anything good and great." The only type of ownership "that is encouraged and permitted to flourish is the ownership of political power and patronage", he stated, adding that was the "new outlook towards men and prblems in India today", Mr. Bhabha further stated that in all recent laws of importance, pertaining to economic life, some sort of exemption was sought to be provided for State enterprises. In the new Companies Act an omnibus clause (Section 620) had been incorporated, vesting powers in the Government to exempt State enterprises from the operation of several sections of the Act. He considered it grossly unfair to give them such special treatment.

Ensuring Parliamentary Control Over Executive

Speakers' Conference Suggestions

Mr. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Speaker of the Lok Sabha in his inaugural address to the three-day conference of presiding officers of legislative bodies in India from various States, which opened in Madras on September 17, said the constitutional set up in the country had changed considerably in character and in regard to devolution of functions, since the first conference of presiding officers held in 1921. While the Executive then was not responsible to the legislature, either in the Centre or the States, Parliament had now been assigned, control over the Executive, he said.

Another realignment that had taken place during the period was the greater use, sometimes exclusive use, of regional languages in legislative bodies. While such realignment helped the growth of democracy, it might also lead to "parochial consideration and linguistic exclusion."

Parliamentary Committee

What was merely a police State under the British rule had now been transformed into a welfare and socialist State. The field of activity of the State had considerably increased since then. The State was engaging itself in running industrial concerns. All this demanded that Parliament, as the instrument of democracy, should keep a watch over the expanding activities of the States. To keep such a watch, he said, it was necessary for Parliament and State legislatures to appoint committees to be in charge of individual concerns, or groups of concerns. Such committees would improve efficiency and increase the usefulness of the concerns taken over by the State.

Administration A Specialised Subject

Since the administration itself was becoming more and more a specialized subject, it was not possible for all members of the legislature to participate intelligently in the discussion of all subjects. The formation of parliamentary standing committee in respect of each Ministry, or department, might be considered so that details of their working could be considered thoroughly by a few members.

Expenditure Etimates

Mr. Ayyangar also suggested that expenditure estimates presented each year along with taxation proposals might be separated and brought forward before the legislature sufficiently early to enable a detailed consideration of all expenditure items. The expenditure budget could be referred to a committee of the whole House, which might divide into various sub-committees to go into the different items.

Mr. Ayyangar regretted that the Finance Ministries in the Centre as well as in the States should continue to be the sanctioning authorities for even small items of expenditure in respect of the legislature secretariat notwithstanding that fact that lump sum grants had been made either by Parliament or the legislatures.

Mr. Ayyangar said simultaneously with the annual conference of the presiding officers, the Indian Parliamentary Association, branches of which had been established in several States, could hold its annual conferences and consider all national problems like health, education, land tenure and so on so as to facilitate national solutions.

A.-I. Cadre of Legislature Secretaries

He also suggested the establishment of an all-India cadre of legislature secretariat officers to bring about unity in outlook.

The Speakership of Parliament and legislatures should be left uncontested, both in the constituency and inside the Legislature. Such a healthy convention was in the interests of the minorities themselves, Mr. Ayyangar said.

Conference Recommendations

With a view to preventing budget leakages, both in the Centre and the

Whips: Architects of Parliamentary Democracy

Kashmir's Prime Minister, Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed, inaugurated the second All-India Whips conference in Srinagar on September 24. He urged Whips and Chief Whips of Government parties to ensure that every member of their party participated fully in every decision and thus, laid a solid foundation for a broad-based democracy.

Mr. Bakshi described Whips as the architects of parliamentary democracy. He asked Whips to evolve a method and procedure which will enable all members of the Government party to be consulted and taken into confidence before any decision was taken or a bill passed. He said Legislature parties lacked specialisation and that was the reason why much effort and time was wasted.

Mr. Satyanarain Sinha, Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, who presided, said since parliamentary democracy was a dynamic instituiion those who were associated with its working should keep pace with the demands of the modern world. It was considered in certain quarters that parliamentary constitutions based on universal franchise are out of date and could not keep pace with the changing techniques of administration, business and international relations. Hence, it was imperative that the new requirements should be met effectively. Whips should perform wider functions than merely being tools for keeping members of their party together.

The two-day conference discussed planning and organisation of legislative and other business of the Government parties in Parliament and the State Legislatures.

(Continued from previous page)

States, the conference decided that the taxation proposals should not be released to the public until after the Finance Minister concerned concluded making them in the House.

Officials and Parliament

The conference considered whether the conduct of any particular officer of the Government could be praised or condemned in the Legislature and it came to the conclusion that neither an eulogy nor attack should be permitted. The conference appealed to opposition and treasury benches not to praise or attack any official on the floor of the House.

The conference also held the view that option be given to the presiding officer to expunge from the official records any unparliamentary and undignified remarks made in the House.

Conduct of Governor

On the question whether a legislature could consider the conduct of a Governor either in his official or private capacity, the conference postponed consideration preferring to wait for further knowledge of the role of the Governors in the reorganized set up of the country, particularly with reference to regional committees.

Legislature Secretaries Conference

The fifth conference of secretaries of legislative bodies in India was held in Madras on September 16. Mr. N. Kaul, Secretary of the Lok Sabha, who presided, emphasized the duty of the secretaries of legislatures was not only to advise the Speakers but also guide the members in their parliamentary work. He also praised the Committee of Secretaries for its reports on the formation of Indian Parliamentary Service, the integeration of services of State Legislature Secretariats affected by the reorganization proposals.

Late G. V. Mavalankar

The Prime Minister unveiling a portrait of Mr. G. V. Mavalankar, late Speaker of the Lok Sabha, in the Central Hall of Parliament House on September 7, described Mr. Mavalankar as "a teacher who trained us in parliamentary way and conventions."

Public Administration In States

Ajmer

Irregularities In Education Directorate

Irregularities of serious nature are said to have been detected in the accounts of the Directorate of Education of Ajmer State by a special audit party of the Accountant General's office, Central Revenue. The report deals with the purchase of books and stores, totalling about Rs. 15 lakhs, made by the Directorate at the last financial year. A number of complaints about the alleged favouritism and irregularities in these transactions were made to the Central Government and as a result of it the audit party was sent to look into the accounts. The auditors have characterized some of the deals as "shady" and suggested an inquiry by the anti-Corruption Department. Orders for books and stores were placed by the Directorate only a few days before the closing of the financial year and the supplies were required to be made before March 31.

Assam

Training of Frontier Service Officers

Mr. Fazal Ali, Governor of Assam, inaugurating the training course for the new batch of Indian Frontier Administrative Service officers in Shillong, said that their task would be a difficult one and success would depend on their ability to identify themselves with the working and psychology of the tribal mind. "The Prime Minister's idea of a good political officer too is that he should be able to go to the tribals, sit with them, dance with them and eat and drink with them," he added.

Mr. Bishnuram Medhi, Chief Minister, underlined the need on the part of the officers to eschew any feeling of superiority. Officers who are to serve in the N.-E. F. A. have to remember that they are on a difficult mission. It was pointed out that if foreign missionaries, coming from thousands of miles away, can win over people to their side, there was no reason why this should be difficult for the Indians.

Bihar

Property Transaction By Govt. Servants

With a view to eliminate corruption from the ranks of Government servants, a number of changes have been made in the Bihar Government Servants' Conduct Rules. Possession of property by Government servants disproportionate to their known income will be considered a grave misconduct in the discharge of their official duties. The Government has already laid down that no Government servant shall, except with its previous knowledge, acquire and dispose of any immovable property by lease, mortage, purchase, sale, gift or otherwise, either in his own name or in the name of any member of his family. A Government servants who enters into any transaction concerning any movable property exceeding Rs. 1,000 in value, whether by way of purchase, sale or otherwise, shall forthwith report such transaction to the Government. Every Government servant shall, on first appointment to service, and, thereafter, at the interval of every 12 months, submit a return, in such form as may be prescribed of all immovable properties owned by him. The rules also provide that the Government may require a Government servant to submit a full and complete statement of movable property held or acquired by him or by a member of his family.

Inadequacy of Staff

Dr. Srikrishna Sinha, Chief Minister of Bihar, addressing a meeting of the Secretaries and heads of departments, held at the Patna Secretariat on August 30, recalled the many difficulties the State Government had to face in implementing the first plan on account of the inadequacy of the technical staff and unsuitability of the administrative machinery for this kind of work. The administrative officers and others constituting this machinery were not only inadequate in number but did not possess the kind of mentality and outlook necessary for executing such a plan. It was i[illegible] a matter of pride that in spite of [illegible]se handicaps, they ultimately succeeded in making the plan a splendid success.

Bombay

Best Administered State in India

Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab, Bombay's outgoing Governor, on September 10 praised the administration of Bombay State and termed it as the best administered State in India.

Mr. Morarji Desai, Chief Minister, said Dr. Mahtab had broken conventions. During his regime, Government house had become the house of everybody. "Raj Bhavan had been turned into 'Am Bhavan' (people's house)". At the same time, Dr. Mahtab fully maintained the dignity and prestige of his office, Mr. Desai added.

Corruption Charges

The officers of the Anti-Corruption and Prohibition Intelligence Force in Bombay State took action against 23 public servants on charges of corruption and misconduct, during the month of August, 1956. Of the 23 public servants, 11 were caught red-handed after they had accepted bribes and the remaining 12 were proceeded against after making inquiries into the complaints received from the members of the public.

Jammu & Kashmir

Corruption Charge Arrests

Twelve officials, including two Deputy Directors, of the Kashmir Sericulture Department, were arrested on September 8 in connection with an alleged embezzlement in the department. Some time ago 18 officials of the department were suspended.

Demand For Public Service Commission

The Anti-Separate Constitution conference, convened by the Praja Parishad in Jammu, which concluded its session on September 24, passed a resolution urging the setting up of a Public Service Commission directly responsible to the head of the State. The resolution alleged that for the last ten years recruitment to Government service was being made in the State on a communal and party basis, resulting in inefficiency in the administration.

Madhya Pradesh

Government Not Supporting Congress

Mr. N. K. Tirpude, Deputy Finance Minister, replying to a debate on the Appropriation Bill, in the State Vidhan Sabha on September 4, refuted the opposition charge that the State Government was giving grants to Congress committees and running the administration on party lines. The Opposition Leader, Thakur Niranjan Singh and Mr. Awari, another opposition member, referred to the grant of Rs. 5,000 to the Raipur District Congress Committee for completing the construction of Gandhi Mandir at Bhatapre as 50 per cent. contribution, the remaining Rs. 5,000 being raised by the Committee. Such a grant, it was argued, smacked of party bias in the administration. Mr. Tirpude replied that the grant was being given to the managing committee of the proposed Gandhi Mandir and not to the Raipur District Congress Committee. Gandhi Mandir was intended to be a public institution, not restricted to Congressmen, and its managing committee was formed of citizens' representatives and not of Congressmen only.

Madras

No Scaling Down of Pay

Mr. C. Subramaniam, States Education Minister, informed the Legislative Council on September 26 that there was no proposal to scale down the salaries of Government officials. The Minister was replying to a member who wanted to know whether the State Government would implement the Congress resolution fixing the maximum salary of Government officials at Rs. 500. Mr. Subramaniam said it was several years since the Congress had passed the resolution and they had to change their opinion in the matter since then.

Punjab

Curtailment of Public Service Commisssion's Powers

The State Legislative Council on September 5 discussed Punjab Government's action in modifying the system of recruitment to its services. The specific issue

under discussion related to the Government decision that in future the State Public Service Commission be asked to refrain from suggesting an order of priority while recommending names for appointment to Government posts. An Independent member, Mr. Ram Chandra, who has himself acted as the Chairman of the Punjab Public Service Commission for five years, regarded this as "interference with the Commission's independence", which he pointed out had been assured under the Constitution.

Mr. Ram Chandra, who had tabled a question on the subject, moved for a special discussion because the Government's reply, he felt, was unsatisfactory. Since 1948, the Commission, he said, had followed the practice of recommending names of suitable candidates in order of priority. Why that system was now being given up, he asked.

Pandit Mohan Lall, Finance Minister, in reply said that the change had been introduced for administrative reasons and denied the allegations that it was motivated by a desire on the part of the Government to enlarge the scope of its patronage.

During the question hour, when the Finance Minister was asked what was meant by administrative reasons, he replied "administrative reasons are administrative reasons." The Minister said that the change in the system of recruitment was not a reflection on the Commission's integrity or an attempt to limit its independence.

The Minister did not reply to Mr. Ram Chandra's query regarding the basis on which the Government would make its choice from the list forwarded by the Commission if no order of priority was given. He also did not touch on the implication of the new system on appointments which were made through a competitive examination.

Government Servants Threaten Direct Action

Several unions and associations, representing Punjab Government employees, have threatened to intensify their agitation if their demands were not accepted. The "direct action" contemplated, if their representations were rejected, ranged from wearing black badges to mass resignations.

The Punjab Subordinate Services Federation, which claims a membership of several thousands, had submitted a memorandum of 20 demands and urged a decision on them by the end of September. The Punjab Overseers' Association, whose members are engaged on some high priority projects, had already directed its members to submit their resignation in mass if their demands were not accepted. They have fixed October 31 as the deadline for the Government's reply.

Another group of Government employees working on the Capital Project were agitating for their integration with the regular Public Works Department so that their employment could be more secure. The Capital Project is due to be completed by 1958.

Yet another group of workers, though not in Government employ, namely several thousands teachers of district board schools in the rural areas, were urging the Government to increase their scales of pay. A notice had been served on the Government by their leaders to start a hunger-strike from September 29.

A special committee of senior officials has been appointed by the Punjab Government to review the representations for revision of pay scales. Presided over by Mr. A. L. Fletcher, the State Financial Commissioner, the committee was not to evolve a new pay structure but only rationalize the changes that had been made on an *ad hoc* basis from time to time during the past few years.

English For Writing Judgments

The Punjab High Court has favoured the use of English for writing judgments in courts at all levels. It has, however, expressed the view that for the purpose of recording evidence in the district and other subordinate courts, Urdu may be replaced by the regional languages. The State Government is committed to replaced

English and Urdu by Hindi and Punjabi as the State's officials languages by 1960—five years ahead of the deadline set in the Constitution.

Corruption Charges Against Officers

A spokesman of the Punjab Government on September 5 announced that the Government had suspended so far more than 40 officials, who supervised the construction work of Narwana Canal at Kurukshetra. The officials include the Superintending Engineer, executive engineers and overseers. Their cases were now being examined by Mr. A. L. Fletcher, Financial Commissioner of the Punjab. The Narwana canal, completed two years ago at an estimated cost of Rs. 6 crores, had been damaged by rain. The Special Police investigating the charges found that the material used for the canal was not in accordance with specifications.

Deputy Ministers' Appointments

Congressman in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha on September 3 joined hands with the Opposition in criticizing the appointment of Deputy Ministers in the State, which was created for the first time in the Punjab when Sardar Partap Singh Kairon formed his Ministry. Besides salary which will be income-tax free, the Deputy Ministers will receive free motor cars and houses maintained entirely by the Government. According to the financial memorandum attached to the Bill to provide for their salaries and allowances, the furnishing of each Deputy Minister's house will cost Rs. 9,000. The severest criticism of the Bill was made by a Congress member, who alleged that the posts had been created in "group interests". He also felt that too much was spent on Deputy Ministers' tours which were not always undertaken for administrative purposes.

No Hotel Accommodation For Mr. Deshmukh

The Chairman of the University Grants Commission, and the former Finance Minister of India, Mr. Chintaman Deshmukh, was denied a room in Chandigarh's Mount View Hotel where State guests usually stay. Officials responsible for receiving V.I.P.s asked the inevitable question: How much does Mr. Deshmukh get every month. The former Finance Minister of India receives a token salary of only a rupee a month, though the post carries a remuneration of Rs. 3,000. The officials were unable to book a room for him on the ground that the rules did not provide for reservation for low-paid guests. Mr. Deshmukh was saved from further embarrassment by the Chief Secretary of the State Government who accommodated him at the State guest house.

First Woman Deputy Commissioner

Miss Sarla Khanna took over charge as Deputy Commissioner, Simla, on September 1. She is the first woman to become a Deputy Commissioner in India.

Rajasthan

Class IV Employees Want More Pay

The first annual general conference of the Rajasthan Class IV employees, which concluded its session in Sikar on September 17, adopted a resoiution demanding revision of pay scales. The resolution said that the present scale of Rs. 25-1-40 was quite inadequate to meet even their daily necessites, not to say of the educational needs of their children. It demanded that the emoluments should be raised to Rs. 120 a month.

Allegations of Irregularities

Allegations of irregularities in the working of Government departments—Education, Jagir and Community Projects—were made in the Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha on September 26 during the debate on supplementary demands for grants. Mr. H. K. Vyas (Communist), who had some time ago unearthed a Chief Whip's letter of recommendation to the Director of Education regarding the selection of a text-book, came out with another allegation that though the Chief Minister had declared on the floor of the House during the last session that the publishers had been black-listed, the decision had not been carried out. He said that while the Chief Minister announced the Government's decision in May, the said book was allowed to be purchased by students when the schools reopened in July, and till the middle of August, the Text-books Nationalisation Board had no

official information about the Government's decision. He also accused the Government of favouring a local book-seller.

Mrs. Kamla Beniwal, Deputy Education Minister, in the absence of the Chief Minister, who is also the Education Minister, explained that at time of black-listing of the firm in May, the Government was not aware that it had to give three month's notice to the firm.

Saurashtra

Secretariat Staff For Bombay

The entire Saurashtra Secretariat staff of about 500 will be absorbed in the Bombay Secretariat, the present strength of which may be increased by 25 to 35 per cent, when required. Chief Minister, Mr. Rasiklal Parikh, said on August 31 that whatever the pettern of the new Bombay Secretariat there would not be any surplus staff left over from any of its integrating areas. The Saurashtra Government had already taken steps to stop recruitment of new hands. District level offices, which will not be disturbed because of integration, have also been asked to absorb administrative staff from various Government departments if new hands were required. Five departments of the Saurashtra Secretariat were expected to move into Bombay by the end of October.

The Saurashtra Electricity Board will be dissolved and a regional office of the Bombay Electricity Board with a Superintending Engineer at its head will be located at Rajkot. A similar arrangement will also be made regarding the State Road Transport Corpoartion.

Uttar Pradesh

Distict Administration Reorganisation

Chief Minister, Dr. Sampurnanand, said on September 14 that the scheme for the reorganisation of the district administration in the State, worked out by the Reorganisation Commissioner, Mr. K. K. Das, was now ready and being given effect to. It provides for decentralisation and keeps in view the principle: "We have to think of several years ahead". While it would not mean retrenchment, it would certainly mean better employment of the staff for a more efficient and expeditious disposal of work, the Chief Minister said. The scheme also attempts to remove temptation for corruption.

The present district administration was based on the Pike Scheme which was now forty years old. Times were changing and within the last eight or nine years vast changes had taken place. The old system of checks and counter-checks could not go on with the vast increase in work. The public was also aware of its rights. The tests for efficiency had also changed. The innumerable forms that had been in force only added to the work and were not considered necessary. The position of the district magistrate, who occupied special place in the district, had also undergone some change. With the posting of senior officers in the districts he was now a co-ordinating officer. He could advise other officers but he could not interfere with their work.

There would be an inquiry office in each collectorate, Dr. Sampurnanand said. He added: "We want some poetry in our court compounds which are very prosaic".

They would introduce the scheme in all the districts and would fix the personnel for each on scientific basis in accordance with individual requirements. There would be no economy after reorganization, the Chief Minister concluded.

Reorganisation Commissioner's Report

The Reorganisation Commissioner's report stressed that the fundamental structure of the administration was sound. Confusion, and delays were caused mainly because the fundamental principles were not observed. The suggestions are mostly meant to streamline the present structure and no basic changes had been recommended.

Promotions on Basis of Seniority

The commissioner has recommended that promotions, as of old, should depend on seniority and not integrity and efficiency as has been the practice for the last few years. The promotions should be on

the basis of seniority subject to the condition that unfit persons are rejected.

Collector As a Co-ordinating Officer

The changes suggested in the district set-up are on the basis that the collector should work more as a coordinating officer and be relieved of routine and procedural work. The collector will, as a rule, open all the official dak that comes to the district. It has been suggested that orders should reach him from the Government through specified officers and not through a hundred or more authorities as at present.

O. & M. Division

The organisation of the collectorate would be on the basis of a chart framed by the commissioner and would not remain the jungle, it is at present, of files, registers and clerks. Regular sections like the revenue and judicial sections would be established and any deviation in the distribution of work would be after a sanction had been taken from the Organisation and the Methods Division to be set-up at the headquarters of the Government.

It has been found that the system of every individual clerk keeping his own dak register serves no useful purpose and adds to useless multiplication of work. Big collectorates have as many as a hundred dak registers. They shall all now carry on with less than ten such registers.

Fewer Returns and Dak Registers

No body at present know as to how many returns, forms and registers were kept at collectorate level. Reorganisation will eliminate about three hundred such returns. Many monthly reports will now be sent half-yearly. With dak registers will also go file and index registers and a host of forms which were sent to the Government but nobody ever looked into them.

Prompt Replies to Letters

It has been estimated that at present a letter passes through about thirty hands before the reply is drafted and sent. Reorganisation will reduce the number to less than half. The system of correspondence followed in the collectorates is 70 years old and has to be thoroughly overhauled to suit new conditions when checks and counter-checks are not needed. Every paper will no longer go to files. Most of the unimportant papers will be destroyed after action had been taken on them. The double record system will also be done away with. The work of the record room will be reduced to half or less. The *Roznamcha* was found to be redundent and may also be done away with. Files of some cases may also be destroyed after the cases were complete.

Working Of Treasury

The working of treasury has not been examined by the Reorganisation Commissioner yet because it would require consultations with the State Bank and the Union Government prior to any change being introduced.

Inquiry Office

The novel feature of the collectorates in future would be the inquiry office. With the inquiry clerk will sit a stamp vendor and a petitions writer. A board will also be put on which important daily announcements will be written down for the information of the public. A complaints box and a petitions box will also be placed there for the convenience of the public. It is suggested, that the public should not be permitted to enter the offices of the collectorate after the inquiry office has been set up.

Copying System

The copying system will also undergo a change. There is a separate copying department in every collectorate now-a-days. This department will be abolished as it has proved to be delaying factor and instead every section will have a copying assistant. In courts the court readers will give copies in criminal cases then and there. Each court will be given a typewriter. Court readers will be expected to learn stenography and they will be given extra allowance of Rs. 25 per month after learning.

At present the collectorates are a loose organisation under the office superintendent who is the most over-worked man in the

district. With the introduction of the section system he will be free to inspect and supervise the work of other clerks.

Reward For Meritorious Work

The emoluments of many of the categories of clerks will be increased. Then there will be awards for special good work. Every divisional commissioner will have at his disposal Rs. 250 per collectorate to be distributed amongst clerks for meritorius work.

Clerks may also be made eligible for promotion to the post of Naib Tahsildars. Rules of medical facilities will also be revised for the benefit of Government servants. Persons declared surplus as a result of implementation of this scheme will be absorbed in other departments such as the Planning Department.

The collectorate offices will wear a new look after the scheme is introducted. The almirahs given to the clerks for files etc. will be taken away and the papers kept in them will either be destroyed or transferred to the table of the clerks in three trays — the pending, incoming and outgoing—and steel filing cabinets introduced. Khas tattis will be replaced by coolers which will be cheaper.

Purchase Of Stationery

The collectors will be authorised to make small purchases for the office themselves and not wait for the store purchase department to send them such requirements. They will be authorised to make purchases of stationery aud get things printed locally.

Reducing of Work

Political sufferrers will be given their certificates by the jail authorities directly and the district magistrates will have nothing to do with it. Arms licenses will be renewed by the police officers or administrative officers when they go on tour in villages and the licence fees will be charged in the form of postage stamps. Licenses will be renewable every year after the date on which they were taken.

The Reorganisation Commissioner is now studying the reorganisation of the Secretariat.

Special Pay For Secretaries

Special pay of Secretaries to the State Government had been raised from Rs. 250 to Rs. 300 per month since September 15, 1954, as the Deputy Secretaries in the Union Government were getting Rs. 300 as special pay. Giving the above information, the Chief Minister told the State Assembly that it was inviduous to differentiate between the I. A. S. officers serving under the State and Central Governments.

The Chief Minister also informed that Assistant Secretaries in the State Secretariat had been put on graded scale of salary since August 1, 1956. Previously they were getting Rs. 625 (Superintendent's pay) plus Rs. 250 as special pay per month. Now they are in the scale of Rs. 800-50-900. The Government was the gainer in the bargain but Assistant Secretaries had the satisfaction of a scale and annual increments, the Chief Minister said.

No recent revision had been made in the salaries of Personal Assistants to the Ministers, he added.

Irregular Use of Staff Cars

U. P. Government have taken a serious view of irregular use of staff cars by its officers and were considering administrative measures to curb it.

The State Government have at the moment a fleet of more than 1,000 staff cars. It is understood that every official provided with a staff car uses it at present for office-going purposes without paying for the journey. The Transport Ministry has now ruled that journey to and back from office by a Government official will not be treated as an official journey. A circular issued by the Ministry on the subject says that if the contention of these officials were correct, the State Government would have to provide every official of theirs either with travelling allowance or a staff car for office-going purposes.

In December last, the Ministry framed a rule on the use of staff cars by officials. The rule said : "Staff vehicles shall ordinarily be used by officers for journeys for which travelling allowance is admissible and will not be used by officers for local journeys within headquarters town except for special reasons." Soon after, this rule was relaxed to permit the restricted use of staff cars by officials for private journeys. The purpose was to meet a situation in which an official is compelled to use a staff car for such journeys — for example, when there is a break-down of his own car. And he was not liable to make any payment for these journeys. Later, the rule was revised to provide for the use of staff cars by officials for private journeys when necessary — on payment of six annas per mile.

A recent scrutiny of rules regarding staff cars travelling and car allowances has revealed that there are certain categories of officers of the Government who have been given staff cars, as also a special car allowanc.

Pending a policy decision by the Government about the continuance of the practice of providing staff cars to its offices, the State Government were issuing orders prohibiting the use of staff cars or Government vehicles for local use, within five miles of the headquarters, and even for going to office and attending official meetings. It had been observed that even Government officers in Lucknow, whose officers are not situated in the Council House, had been using staff cars to come to attend meetings at Council House.

Numerous administrative orders and reminders to officers to make use of staff cars only for official purposes have had little effect so far. The officers have continued to take advantage of lacuna in orders that they could use these cars in cases of emergency when their own personal vehicles were not available. Payment for personal use of staff cars by officers has been rare. Besides, there had been reports that officers were undertaking long journeys by staff cars, when they could have conveniently travelled by train, and taken their families with them. In some instances, the staff cars were taken even outside the State, particularly to New Delhi.

Decentralisation and Delegation

The Chief Secretary to the U. P. Government, Mr. A. N. Jha, addressing the District Planning Officers' conference in Lucknow on September 6 said that decentralisation and the delegation of power that the former implied were essential to secure the speedy implementation of the various development plans. In a democratic set up those in the lowest rung of the official leader should be enabled to play their part effectively in executing all schemes designed to promote the common weal, Mr. Jha said. This decentralisation could begin, for example, with the Planning Department, the biggest co-ordinating agency at the headquarters of the Government, through which orders on the implementation of the various development schemes passed. As the Development Commissioner had delegated some of his powers to the Deputy Development Commissioner, the process should similarly, in the end, vest the Gram Sewak with the requisite powers to enable him to discharge his responsibilities efficiently. The Government, in pursnance of the scheme of decentralisation, had already vested some of the District Planning Officers with powers of the ADM. In response to the demand made at the conference, he had decided to delegate similar powers to Assistant District Planning Officers.

The Development Commissioner, Mr. Govind Narain, winding up the discussion on the Sub-Committee's report on Administration, stressed the role of the Planning Department as the sole co-ordinating agency and urged the various technical departments, working in collaboration with the Planning Department, to play their part effectively to produce the desired results.

Public Accounts Committee's Report

The U. P. Public Accounts Committee in its first report on the 1954 audit report, presented to the State Assembly on

September 6, criticised the Transport Department for failure to realize outstanding dues amounting about Rs. 34,50,000 from private parties for job work done for them.

The report, presented by the Chairman, Mr. Madan Mohan Upadhyaya, (PSP) spotlighted attention on the "considerable delay" by the Government in filing suits against private parties to whom overpayment to the tune of Rs. 2.10 lakhs had been made as compensation for land acquired from them in 1947 for construction of a medical college.

The report referred to a case in which the Food and Civil Supplies Department, ignoring legal advice that there was no contractual obligation on it to do so, paid a total compensation of Rs. 3.60 lakhs in 1947 and 1951 to certain dealers.

The Committee also expressed the view that the Government dealt "too leniently" with an executive engineer of the Irrigation Department, who had through negligence made overpayment to the extent of Rs. 7.19 lakhs to a Muslim contractor who eventually escaped to Pakistan. The Pakistan Government with whom the Government of India took up the matter expressed its inability to recover any amount from the contractor. The executive engineer was "merely warned" by the Government.

The Committee referred to a case of infructuous expenditure of Rs. 5.96 lakhs paid to a foreign firm for work on 60 abandoned tube-wells.

Civil Service Rule Not A Law

Mr. Justice Mehrotra of the Allahabad High Court on September 21 dismissing a writ petition, filed by a retired Deputy Collector of U. P. for quashing the order of the State Government reducing the amount of his pension on the ground of misconduct and unsatisfactory record of service, held that civil service regulations could not be regarded as law within the meaning of Article 14 of the Constitution and, therefore, they were not rendered void by reason of Article 14.

The petitioner, Gurdut Singh, retired as City Magistrate, Faizabad in January, 1950. He stood as a candidate in the last general elections of the State Assembly against a Congress candidate but was defeated. In 1953 he participated in the satyagraha launched by the Bhartiya Jan Sangh at Delhi and was convicted for defiance of a prohibitory order promulgated by the Delhi State Government and was sentenced to four months' rigorous imprisonment and fine of Rs. 1,000. In February, 1955, the State Government reduced his pension by Rs. 70 on the ground of 'unsatisfactory record of service and on account of his conviction'. The petitioner challenged the order of the State Government through a writ petition contending that the order was malafide and was actuated by political motive in order to victimise him. It was also argued that Civil Service Rule 470, which gave power to the Government to reduce the pension, was ultra vires of the Constitution as it gave unfettered discretion to the State Government either to reduce or not to reduce the pension.

Chaprasis' Contribution and Demands

Mr. Dharam Singh, Parliamentary Secretary to the State's Finance Minister, addressing a conference of the U. P. Anjuman Chaprasiyan in Nainital on September 17, said chaprasis' contribution in building a new social order in the country was not less than that of highly-placed officials. Referring to the demands of the Association for higher grades of pay and other facilities, the Parliamentary Secretary said their demands were reasonable and deserved sympathetic consideration. They shall, however, realize that Government had also its limitations.

Referring to complaints that Government officials were still taking domestic work from the peons he said the Government had long ago issued an order, making it clear that no such work should be taken from them by officials.

Mr. Narain Dutt Tewari, M. L. A., (P. S. P.) who presided expressed the hope that the Government would accede to peons' demands regarding increase in the pay scale, free education of their children, restoration of hill allowance and other facilities.

KANPUR DEVELOPMENT BOARD

NOTICE

Sealed item rate tenders on the Board's standard tender form to be obtained from the Board Office on payment of fee mentioned against the work in the schedule below are invited for the following work on the date mentioned therein.

Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Security	Dr. of Rct. of tenders	Cost of tender form	Time of completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Construction of Intake Channel at Jajmau :						
(a) Construction of 20′ wide & 54′ long suction pit. 2 Nos. 4′ internal Dia. wells 10′ deep.	7,650/-	77/-	153/-	8-11-56	2/-	3 Months.
(b) Sinking of 4 Hos. 4′ internal dia, wells, retaining wall, slabs, wing walls & fixing 4′ dia. suction pipes including sluice valve, bend and earth-work.	36,968/-	370/-	740/-	8-11-56	2/-	3 Months.
(c) Construction of side walls of channel and laying concrete in the bed of channel including earth work.	12,134/-	122/-	243/-	8-11-56	2/-	3 Months.

Tenders will be opened by the Chief Engineer on 8-11-56 at 2-30 p. m.

Authority is reserved to reject any or all of the above tenders received without assigning any reason therefor.

The successful tenderer must deposit a sum as per column 4 of the schedule above at the time of signing the contract on the Board's standard contract form.

A further sum representing 10% of the cost of work paid in each bill will be deducted as security till the total security of 10% is recovered.

The Amount of earnest money as per column 3 of the above schedule will be forfeited out of the permanent deposit made at the time of enlistment, and acceptance of the tender withdrawn in case the tenderer fails to sign the contract deed & deposit the stamp paper & security within fifteen days of being called upon to do so after the acceptance of the tender.

Tenderers, if they so desire, may remain present at the time the tenders are opened.

9-10-56

Executive Engineer.

Industrial Management and Scientific Services

Emergency Recruitment of I.A.S. Officers

Mr. B. N. Datar, Minister for Home Affairs, informed the Lok Sabha on September 11 that the emergency IAS recruitment examination would be held on December 28, 1956. Mr. Datar added apart from holding the examination in a number of centres in India, it had been decided to hold examinations in London and 21 other centres abroad to enable Indians residing in other countries, particularly employees of Indian missions, to appear for the examination.

In addition to emergency recruitment to the IAS, Mr. Datar said the Government proposed to take a number of officers from the States to the Indian Administrative Service. He estimated, while replying to the question, that the number to be recruited directly as a result of the December examination would be about 155 and the number to be recruited as a result of promotion from the States services would be about 230 to 250.

Reorientation of I.A.S. Recruitment

Minister for Home Affairs, Mr. B. N. Datar, had informed the Lok Sabha on August 21 that the Government had decided to appoint a special officer to examine matters connected with reorientating recruitment to the Indian Administrative Service. The officer, he said, would work in close association with a group of senior secretaries and would finish his work by the end of the year.

Industrial Management Service

Mr. K. C. Reddy, Production Minister, said on September 15 that the proposals for instituting an industrial management cadre for industrial undertakings in public sector had been drafted and would soon be finalised. He indicated that the Government might recruit about 200 persons for the six categories of the proposed service. Present employees of nationalised undertakings as well as persons from private industry will be eligible. Conditions such as those regarding the age of candidates will be flexible as the intention is to secure the services of experienced personnel for expanding the public sector of industry.

A.-I. Scientific Service

The proposal to have an all-India cadre of scientific services is under active consideration of the Union Government. It is felt that the best talent is often snatched away from science by civil and administrative services because the terms of service, position in the socity and remunerations are much better in these services than in the pursuit of science. An officer in the administrative service gets promotion more quickly than a scientist working in the laboratories and recognition in science also comes late. A committee of the Union Government recently invited opinion of prominent scientists of the country and has formulated certain principles on the data and opinions so collected. The committee is of the opinion, that the scientific services should be in the nature of a pool of technical and science experts instead of being a compartmentalised service like the Indian Forest Service or the Survey of India Service. The committee is at present engaged in working out the grades of salaries and emoluments which would be such that scientists would not drift away from science to less specialised jobs.

Constitutional Guarantee to I.C.S.

A non-official bill to amend the Constitution of India so that the privy purses paid to the former Indian rulers are subject to imcome-tax was introduced in the Lok Sabha on September 7 by Mr. K. K. Basu (Communist—West Bengal). The Bill also seeks to remove the constitutional guarantee given to I. C. S. personnel as far as their salaries are concerned. The Constitution guarantees to them the same conditions of service in regard to remuneration, leave and pension as they were entitled to before the commencement of the Constitution.

Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities

The Union Home Minister announced in the Lok Sabha on September 4 that the Government will make provision in the Constitution (Ninth Amendment) Bill

(Continued on next page)

O & M For Delhi Municipal Committee

The New Delhi Municipal Committee on September 28 decided to create an Organisation and Method Unit, consisting of one of the Assistant Secretaries and the Accounts Officer, to find ways of toning up the administration and making for quicker work. The Unit will first take up procedural matters like the receipt and disposal of mail, arrear reports and problems of accommodation and training of staff. The next item in order of priority is the reorganisation of the office and requirements for additional staff. Compilation of office manuals for each branch and department and delegation of powers, both administrative and executive, will engage the attention of the Unit last of all.

The Unit will from time to time put up its recommendations to the President for approval and some of them may be brought before the Committee for consideration.

Mr. Maheshwar Dayal, Seniar Vice-President, who was in the chair, pointed out that it had been noticed in the past that a number of decisions could not be implemented in time owing to the slow movement of files and a lot of red-tape. Many a time people not even members, unconnected with the implementation of the decisions, took away files, causing delays.

(Continued from previous page)

for a Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities whose report will be discussed by Parliament on the model of the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Defence Department's Irregularities

The Public Accounts Committee of the Lok Sabha in its report on the Appropriation Account of the Defence Services for 1953-54, presented by the chairman of the Committee, Mr. V. B. Gandhi, has called upon the Defence Ministry to evolve a better mechanism for budgetary control in consultation with the Finance Ministry.

Among the irregularities listed by the Committee were of delay in cancelling orders for stores involving loss of several lakhs.

No Waste in D. V. C.

Mr. P. P. Varma, Chairman of the Damodar Valley Corporation, speaking in Calcutta on September 1, objected to the recent remarks of the retiring Governor of Orissa, Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, that "there has been a colossal wastage of public funds in the "DVC." Mr. Varma said that the reason behind Mr. Raja's "sweeping conclusion" was that they were building concrete dams with modern mechanical equipment using large quantities of cement instead of buildings in stone masonry as in the south. He said "Mr. Raja should have known that south has abundant stone deposits of suitable grades and, therefore, masonry has been the traditional type of construction. For speedier construction concrete is often a better material and mechanisation is essential if dams are to be completed expeditiously.

Official Who Talked To Minister With Hands in Pockets

An officer of the Transport Department, Meerut, has been asked to explain why action should not be taken against him for standing before the State Minister of Transport, Mr. Charan Singh, with his hands in his trousers' pockets. After thus talking to the Minister he had asked permission to leave for his office, but this too with his hands in his pockets. The Minister has now asked him for an explanation.

Another officer of the same department has been asked to explain why he tried to exert undue influence on the Minister to get his transfer cancelled. This officer had contacted a Parliamentary Secretary to "talk" to the Minister to get his transfer from the district in which he was working cancelled. The Parliamentary Secretary approached the Minister and recommended that as the officer was doing excellent work in his district he should not be transferred.

Public Administration In Other Countries

Indonesia

Foreign Minister Exonerated of Corruption Charge

The Special Ministerial Enquiry Commission, appointed by the Indonesian Government to investigate the charges of alleged involvement of the Foreign Minister, Mr. Roeslan Abdulgani, in a corruption case, has come to a unanimous conclusion "that there were no grounds implicating Mr. Roeslan Abdulgani on any criminal activities involving corruptive practice". Following this statement of the Ministerial Enquiry Commission, the Attorney General, who also attended both the meetings of the Commission on August 30 and 31, issued a declaration stating that there were no grounds to institute any legal proceedings against the Minister. The Foreign Minister was thus exonerated of the allegations of his being involved in a corruption case.

Prime Minister, Mr. Ali Sastroamidjojo, had said on August 15 that the incident had a political background. The allegations were levelled against the Foreign Minister to discredit the Government as a means to bring about its downfall by undemocratic and unconstitutional way.

The Commission was appointed, as, in Indonesian law, there is no procedure as yet to keep under custody a Minister of the Government on charges of alleged corruption or involvement in criminal acts. The Commission was headed by Mr. Mod. Roem, First Deputy Premier. Its other members were Mr. K. H. Idham Chalid, 2nd Deputy Premier, Mr. Muljatno, Minister of Justice, Mr. Sudibjo, Minister of Information, Mr. Dahlan Ibrahim, Minister of Veteran Affairs. The Ministerial Enquiry Commission was composed of Ministers who were not member of the Nationalist Party of which Mr. Abdulgani is a member, as also the Prime Minister, Mr. Ali Sastroamidjojo. The Chairman, Mr Roem, is a member of the Masjumi Party, while the Commission's four members belong to the Nahdatul Ulama, the Masjumi, the Partai Sarekat Islam Indonesia, and the People's Freedom Parties, respectively. The meetings of the Commission were also attended by the Attorney General, the Chief of State Police, Djakarta Raya, and Major Isman, representing the Chief of Staff.

The Commission in its statement, exonerating the Foreign Minister, said that it had come to the conclusion after an exhaustive and thorough examination of all the facts relating to the case, as made available in the police interogations of P. A. de Queljoe, Director General of the State Printing Office, and Lie Hok Tay, another high official of the same office, and letters and correspondence relating to the matter submitted by the Foreign Minister himself.

Public Administration Faculty

The Public Administration Faculty of the Krishnadwipajana University, the first of its kind in Indonesia, was officially opened at the Adhuc State, in Surabaja recently. Dean of the faculty, Dr. Prajudi, in his opening speech outlined the importance of Public Administration for the development of the State. A State, Dr. Prajudi said, is run by a Government but Government cannot function in the absence of Public Administration or an orderly State Administration made up of capable and skilled administrators who are to see to it that the Government policy and regulations are carried out in the proper way. Without a good administration every decision and plan of the Government would be of no value. He declared that Public Administration is very urgent in order to make perfect the organisation of their State.

Israel

Committees to study public Service Standards

The Israel Political Sciences Association has appointed a study group, headed by Supreme Court Justice Berinson, who is also lecturer in labour law at the Hebrew University and a former Director General of the Labour Ministry, to "study and formulate principles and standards of

conduct of public office holders", that is, of officials in the service of the State, the Municipalities, the Jewish Agency and other public or semi-public bodies, as well as members of elected bodies.

The Association has appointed a second committee, headed by the Supreme Court Justice Witkon, who is also a lecturer in taxation at the Hebrew University and an outstanding authority on fiscal problems, to "study and formulate principles and standards of public budgeting and financial legislation."

Nepal

Civil Service Act

The Nepal Government on September 9 brought into force the Civil Service Act which, for the first time in the history of Nepal provides for the constitution and organisation of a proper civil service in the kingdom. The Government also brought into force the Administrative Procedure Regulation Act meant for amending outdated laws and enforcing up-to-date laws. The Government claimed that the Act does away with two centuries of inefficiency in the Government.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Tanka Prasad Acharya, who announced the Government decision to bring into effect the above Acts at a Press conference said that Nepal had about 600 gazetted and 21,000 non-gazetted civil servants, who, accordeng to old rules, were transferred from one department to another without consideration of their qualifications or suitability for a particular job.

Pakistan

Need For A Clean Administration

Prime Minister, Mr. Suhrawardy, in a broadcast to the nation on September 12, listed political stability as the first and foremost problem facing the country. He said it can never be gained unless they allow free play to democratic processes, uphold the Constitution in letter and spirit and ensure the rule of law.

Referring to public administration, the Prime Minister said you must have a clean administration and clean politics. It is said and felt that corruption is rampant, that no one gets even his just dues unless he stoops to unscrupulous methods. Let us all endeavour to get together and eradicate corruption from our midst. Let us clear the atmosphere of foulness. But this cannot be done unless we co-operate with each other in this direction.

Yugoslavia

Federal Executive Council

By a decree changing the organisational set up and activities of the Federal Executive Council almost all administrative affairs have been transferred from the Council to the Federal administration, thus changing the status of the Federal Executive Council Committees which now represent only a form of its internal organisation and mode of work. The committees prepare proposals and are no longer entitled to bring decisions independently. The Coordination Committee, as distinct from seven other committees, is invested with somewhat broader powers as it coordinates the activities of all the committees and commissions of the Council. The modified Decree entitles a member of the council to study a given problem, and submit proposals for deliberation to the Council. The member who receives such an assignment has no independent privileges in the field of his studies, but can only submit a report at a condcil Session. The new text lays particular stress on the constitutional principle of the Federal Executive Council as a collective political body which, freed of administrative duties and the co-ordination of current activities of the Federal administration, is now in a position to efficiently discharge the political-executive function, discuss the principles, political and social problems of the country, and introduce decrees and regulations.

Larger Cities Have Higher Proportion of Employees

According to the U. S. Bureau of the Census, the larger the city, the more employees it hires per 10,000 population.

Fight Against Bureaucracy In China

Mr. Liu Shaochi in the course of the Political Report of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party to the Eighth Congress of the Party in Peking, on September 15, 1956, referring to the problems of Public Administration in China, said :

"In keeping with the new situation in socialist transformation and socialist construction, an important task in the work of the State today is to extend democracy further and to carry on a struggle against bureaucracy.

"In many of our State organs, there is a phenomenon of bureaucracy characterised by arm-chair leadership which does not understand and which suppresses the opinions of subordinates and the masses, and pays little attention to the life of the masses.

"The struggle against bureaucracy will be a long one. But we firmly believe that, under our People's Democracy, we shall be able gradually to eliminate the bureaucratic vices. Of course, such vices may revive after they are eliminated. But the more we try to eliminate them, the more they will diminish.

"This is because our State is quite apart from the exploiters' States, in which a minority of the people oppress the majority, and because our system, instead of protecting bureaucracy, is fundamentally opposed to it.

"In order to struggle against bureaucracy effectively, we must strengthen our supervision of the work of the State through several channels at the same time.

"First, we must strengthen the leadership of State organs, and supervision over them, by the Party. Party committees at all levels must, from time to time, check upon the work of Party organisations within the Government organs at all levels.

"Secondly, we must reinforce supervision by the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee over the departments of the Central Government; and supervision by all the local People's Congress over all the local Government organs.

"Thirdly, we must reinforce supervision over subordinates by superiors, and vice versa within the Government organs at all levels.

"Fourthly, we must strengthen supervision by the masses of the people, and by the low-ranking Government workers over the organs of State. Criticisms and exposures from below must be encouraged and supported. Those who suppress people making criticism or avenge themselves on the critics must be duly punished.

"Another important problem in State affairs today is the need to properly readjust the administrative powers and functions of the central and local authorities.

"It is, therefore, absolutely necessary for the central authority to devolve some of its administrative powers and functions to the local authorities. As regards a good deal of the work of the State, such as agriculture, small and medium industries, local transport, local commerce, primary and secondary education, local health services, local finance, and so forth, the central authority should only put forward general principles and policies and map out general plans, while the actual work should be referred to the local authorities to make arrangements for carrying it out in a manner suitable to the localities themselves and the time element involved.

"Part of the cadres working in the central organs should also be sent to work in the localities. The provinces, municipalities, counties and townships should be given a definite range of administrative powers and functions."

Prevention of Corruption Act Upheld

Punjab High Court on September 27 held Section 5 (1) (C) of the Prevention of Corruption Act to be *intra vires*. The validity of the Section was challenged on the ground that it offended against Article 14 of the Constitution.

UN University to Train Administrators

FAO Council Suggestion

The possible establishment of a United Nations university which would train students as administrators to help countries run their development programmes has been suggested by Sir Herbert Broadley, Acting Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN.

Addressing the FAO Council meeting in Rome, Sir Herbert admitted that his idea was in some respects a "dream". He pointed out, however, that such a university would enable students from all over the world to enjoy "all those advantages of liberal education on which most of the administrative services . . . now rest—but on the basis of internationalism rather than on a national basis".

Earlier Proposals

Sir Herbert made his suggestion when he drew attention to the difficulties attendant on a recent proposal that a special UN agency be established to provide administrators for countries which need them.

Earlier this year, Lester B. Pearson, Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs, suggested the establishment of a United Nations professional and technical civil service which would train experts for work in less developed areas. A kindred proposal was made by French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau, who suggested the setting up of a new UN agency for world economic development.

Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold welcomed both proposals in a speech he made at McGill University, in Montreal, on 30 May. He also referred to the ideas on later occasions, both in the Economic and Social Council and in the course of his press conferences. In one of these, on 7 June, he described the possible establishment of a UN technical assistance civil service as his "favourite child at present."

Wider Fellowship

Sir Herbert spoke during a debate in which the Council agreed that FAO should help its member countries to train the high-level administrators necessary for the progress of their national programmes of agricultural development.

The 24-nation Council advocated the widening of FAO's fellowship and scholarship programmes to include personnel who would eventually administer development schemes. The programmes are already providing training for hundreds of scientists and technicians.

Representatives who took part in the discussion felt that training and background in their own countries would be indispensable to administrators. Working through the FAO fellowship programme, they pointed out, governments could propose personnel already trained in the technological needs and social conditions of their own countries, and could ask aid in the form of additional training in administration.

The delegates agreed that the role of the administrator today is far wider than the old-fashioned one of maintaining law and order by applying the policy directives of the government concerned. The modern administrator, they noted, must have a broader base in the science of his field, a wider culture and a greater awareness of the human and sociological implications of the work he is carrying out.

School For Legislators

A school to train those desirous of taking up the career of legislator, parliamentarian or politician, is proposed to be opened in Bombay shortly. It will be housed at Siddarth College. The school has been planned and organised by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar who will be its first Director. The course at the institute will be of a year's duration, and will be divided into three terms. The minimum qualification for admission to the School is matriculation with a command over the English language. About 50 students will be admitted to the School. They will be awarded a diploma at the conclusion of the course.

Central Council of Local Self-Government

Union Health Minister's Inaugural Address

The second meeting of the Central Council of Local Self-Government was held in Ootacamund on September 14 and 15.

The Union Health Minister, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, in her inaugural address to the Conference said : "The value of the local government system can be assessed by its

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur,
Union Health Minister

capacity to provide the public with adequate services of various kinds such as primary education, hospitals, roads, drainage and sewage, street lighting, water supply, libraries, parks and such other public utilities. Its success depends also on how far it is able to educate the man in the street as to what are the responsibilities that he has to fulfil towards his fellow citizens and towards the well-being of his village or city. I do not think that we have touched even the fringe of the problem in these matters.

"In recent years wherever municipal councils have done good work it has been mainly due to the chairman or to the efficiency and interest of the individual at the helm of affairs and not to the fact that the municipal committee as a whole was composed of capable persons, who were fully alive to their duties and responsibilities. In most places the chairman of a municipal committee is the active head of the executive and where he is efficient and is prepared to devote several hours daily to office work inspections, hearing of complaints and appeals and is able to take the right decision, the municipal administration runs well. But such, alas, is the exception rather than the rule ! Educating the voter means that he will be competent to elect only such persons as are able to inject new life into municipal bodies and follow a constructive and realistic policy in municipal matters. The cityfather, on the other hand, should consider his election to a municipal committee wholly and solely as an opportunity to render impartial service to his fellow citizens.

Officers of Local Bodies

"For the good conduct of local government work, efficient staff is required. The staff in local government institutions suffer today from various disabilities. Many of them lead somewhat peripatetic lives, having no security of tenure with the result that they are not able to give of their best. They naturally spend more time in attending to matters which will keep their posts secure than to their duties. Technical officers like health officers, engineers, etc., are often afraid of speaking the truth. If, for example a health officer gives a true report on the insanitary conditions in a poor quarter of a city and honestly suggests the remedies therefor, vested interests are sometimes powerful enough to the extent of dispensing with his services with the result that worse conditions are allowed to develop in those areas and only important roads or localities in which the members are interested are attended to. A recommendation has been

made in the Officers Committee Report, which reviewed the Taxation Enquiry Commission and the Local Finance Enquiry Committee proposals, that the principal officers of municipalities should form a Statewise cadre. I heartily approve of this suggestion and would recommend that wherever possible this should be given effect to.

"In short, more and more attention should be paid both to improving the quality of persons who are elected to administer the affairs of all local bodies and, at the same time, steps should be taken to ensure that the staff engaged at various levels are fully qualified and trained and are given satisfactory conditions and terms of service.

"We shall be discussing the question of the formation of a proper cadre for employees of local bodies and the introduction of a training programme for them. I would request all members to give their very earnest and careful consideration to this and I hope proper steps necessary to achieve the desired end will be formulated.

Training of Panchayat Secretaries

"In regard to village panchayats, the necessity for a training programme has already been felt. My Ministry recommended to the Planning Commission that financial assistance should be given from the Centre for the training of panchayat secretaries and sarpanchas but so far no satisfactory reply has been received. I have again taken this matter up with my colleagues, the Union Minister for Planning, and I hope it will receive at least some if not due attention.

Slum Improvement

"Apart from the improvement in the standards of all local bodies, one or two matters require very early attention. You may have read about the slum service programme for improving the slum "katras", of Delhi. This was started about three months ago. Obviously, the wholesale removal or clearance of slums from the urban area of Delhi, or indeed of any large city, is a stupendous and colossal task and must take several years to complete. In all such cases careful planning and thought are required: Every locality has to be separately considered. Since all this would have taken a long time in Delhi and as the slum dwellers in the various katras do not have even the minimum basic necessities, such as lavatories, water taps, sanitation, etc., it has been decided that every slum locality must straightaway be given these minimum services. In many of these katras, court-yards have been opened out and paved, proper drains, lavatories, water taps and light points have been provided as well as certain minimum necessary repairs to make the hovels a little more habitable. I feel that this is a very necessary step which will improve the miserable conditions of life for slum dwellers at far less cost than the wholesale demolition of slums. I understand that work of similar nature is being carried out in the city of Madras. Other great cities may follow this example.

"Legislation as to how to acquire slum property and how to give powers to an authority to effect such acquisitions is under examination and when ready, copies of the Bill will be sent immediately after introduction in Parliament to all the Members of the Council so that they may also adopt similar measures in so far as their States are concerned.

"I have myself visited most of the slum areas in Delhi and I have also seen the result of the improvements which have been effected by the recent service measures. I have suggested that in the court-yard of slum katras trees should be planted so that the inhabitants will get a little more breeze and a little more shade during the hot summer season. Apart from these improvements, a great deal of social service, including education, remains to be carried out in these areas in order to wean the people from their present insanitary habits. This is a stupendous task but this is where the co-operation of the cityfathers will be most required. Each member of the Municipal Committee should head a social organisation in his own ward or locality and should carry out social service among the less-advanced section of the community so that they gradually come up to the standard required and take part actively and helpfully in the civic life of the area.

Local Bodies Finances

"In the agenda which has been placed before you, we have tried to take up what appeared to us to be matters of urgent importance. You must have gone through the memoranda circulated by the Secretary of the Council and I am sure you will have given considerable thought to the various suggestions made therein. The most important items of the agenda is the consideration of the report of the officers Committee, who were asked to report on the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Commission and the Local Finance Enquiry Committee in so far as they relate to local finances. Most of the local bodies are unable to carry out good work even if they want to do so because of lack of funds. Excellent recommendations had been made both by the Local Finance Enquiry Committee and the Taxation Enquiry Commission. At the last meeting of the Council, as you will all remember, the matter was referred to the Executive Committee which was directed to report to the Council within four months. The State Governments were addressed by the Secretary of the Council immediately after the last meeting but I am sorry to say even up to today some State Governments have not yet sent replies to the questionnaire. The matter was considered by the Executive Committee at its meeting held on Nov. 3, 1955, at New Delhi and again at its meeting held on July 20, 1956 at Bombay. In view of the importance and urgency of the problem, it was decided at the meeting in Bombay that a small committee, consisting of officers representing the Governments of Andhra, Bombay, Madras, U. P., and West Bengal and the Secretary of the Council should examine the proposals and should submit a report to me. The officers Committee met from August 6 to 8 at Lucknow and have submitted a report which I trust you have examined carefully. I have myself gone through the recommendations and I agree with almost everyone of them. You will, I am certain, agree with me that the Committee has done a good and thorough job of work whereby we shall be enabled to have a useful discussion on their recommendations. Some of these are far-reaching but in view of the existing conditions of our local bodies drastic remedies are required.

Early Implementation

"But it will not be enough for us here to accept the recommendations made by this Committee. We must take early steps to implement them. I am sure the decisions that will emerge from the Council after examination of the report will be implemented within the earliest possible period by all the State Governments in so far as they concern them. In regard to the recommendations in which the Central Government has to take action, I need hardly assure you that I shall see that necessary action is taken with the least possible delay."

Future of Distric Boards

Speaking on the future of District Boards, the Health Minister said: "The executive committee which considered this subject at its meeting held in November, 1955 felt that an intermediary unit between the Panchayats and State Governments was necessary but, at the same time it was not possible for the Committee to give any opinion as to whether it should be at the State-level or at a lower level. The Executive committee, therefore, desired that this question should be considered by the Council.

Water Supply & Sanitation

"The Secretary of the Council has circulated a detailed note in regard to the programme of national water supply and sanitation schemes. To my last breath I shall continue to emphasise the importance and urgency of this programme. I do not want to say more at this stage except that the State Governments should not only take more interest in the schemes themselves but they should also see that the local bodies and panchayats should do likewise in this vital programme. I look forward to suggestions from you for ensuring that this programme is executed in the most satisfactory manner."

Community Projects

Passing on to other items on the agenda, and to Community Projects, the Union Minister send that co-ordination between the

Community Projects Administration and Village Panchayat Administrations was discussed at some length in the second meeting of the Executive Committee held in Bombay on July 20 when Mr. Dey explained as to how the Community Projects Administration wanted to utilise in full the Local Self-Government institutions in most of the villages of India. **It was also agreed that the development programmes of the Community Projects should to the maximum extent possible, be carried out through panchayats. In order to find out whether such co-operation existed between the Community Projects Administration and the Local Self-Government and Health administrations in the various States, my Ministry addressed the State Governments on July 30, asking for the required information to be furnished immediately. But here again, we have unfortunately not received any replies except from two States.** I shall be grateful if in all such cases the information required by us is furnished as early as possible so that further examination of such matters can be carried out efficiently and quickly. In regard to this particular matter we may in the circumstances have now to consider it in consultation with the Community Projects Administration after my Ministry receives replies from the State Governments."

Parks and Playfields

"Before I conclude," the Health Minister said, "I would like to mention one or two other matters. I happen to have seen a non-official Bill sponsored in the Madras Legislative Council for the preservation of parks, play-fields and open spaces. The aim of the Bill was to ensure that parks, open spaces, etc., were not encroached upon and continued to act as lungs for urban areas. The Bill was introduced in the Madras Legislative Council on Apr. 5, 1956. I am sure that a Bill of this nature is a step in the right direction and I would commend that similar measures may be adopted by other States.

Review of Local Bodies Reports

"I would like to draw your attention to one further point which suggested itself to me when I was going though the proceedings of the Madras State Government on the Administration Report of the Corporation of Madras for 1954-55. In their review the State Government provide guidance to the Corporation by indicating under various heads as to what more was required to be done and what should not be done. Such a review provides an overall direction which is bound to tone up the activities of local bodies. I hope that a similar procedure is being followed by other States. If the administration reports of the various local administrations could be reviewed in this manner by State Governments, then each local body could be given directions as to what they should do and what they should not do. I would commend this procedure also for acceptance by all State Governments.

Local Self-Government Administration In India

"I am happy to announce that the Office of the Council in my Ministry has been able to make a compilation on local self-government administration in the States of India. This compilation has since been printed and will be made available to you here. The information in this booklet is based on the material furnished by the State Governments themselves. The figures and data have been carefully checked. However, a compilation of this nature, unless it is kept up-to-date, will not serve any purpose. It has to be periodically revised with the necessary corrections and amendments and I appeal to the Members to furnish the necessary information to the Secretary of the Council periodically, so that up-to-date information may always be available in the Office of the Council and may also be made available to the Members at regular intervals as a printed publication.

Women On Local Bodies

"Finally I would like to reiterate that more and more women should be elected to local bodies. I am happy to note that Vavveru Panchayat Board near Nellore in Andhra State has elected an "all-women panchayat." I hope this Panchayat will set an example to other Panchayats in the Andhra State and perhaps

to the whole country. I am also glad note that the woman President has resolved to eschew politics from the work of the panchayat and she and her fellow members will concentrate their efforts on improving the health services, sanitation, artistic planning and provision of social amenities for the people of the village. More and more panchayats of this kind are needed because our women have more spare time to devote to such matters. They should know best how to keep an environment clean and healthy. Every encouragement should be given to women who are prepared to come forward to participate in such work."

Local Self-Government Ministers' Views

After delivering her presidential address. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Union Minister for Health, invited each State Minister to express his views on problems concerning local administration in his area and offer suggestions as to how the Union Government could help the States to solve them.

Speaking first, Mr. P. N. Mahanty, Director of Grama Panchayat, Orissa, explained how anchals constituted in his State under Anchal Sasan act after the abolition of District Boards functioned and pleaded for decentralisation of functions in regard to co-operation, agriculture, primary education and public health with adequate financial assistance to panchayats. He also stressed the need for trained and experienced personnel for better co-ordination between panchayats and N. E. S. and Community Projects Administration.

Mr. Syed Ali Zaheer, Local Administration Minister, Uttar Pradesh, said that some of the problems which this meeting had to discuss were of very vital and urgent nature and was glad that some of the decisions taken by the Council at its first meeting had received some consideration at the hands of the Union and State Governments. He added that they had to go a very long way before making both the Union and State Governments fully appreciate the significance of the decisions which they were taking here. So, instead of going into matters which did not concern local bodies immediately and directly it would be wiser on their part to concentrate on specific matters and problems which were of very great magnitude and make their recommendations for favourable consideration and approval of the Union Government.

Separate Ministry of Local Self-Govt.

In this connection he said that it was unfortunate that there was no separate department in the Union Government to deal with matters connected with local Self-Government although the Union Ministry of Health, which was at present looking after them, had been able to give some attention inspite of its preoccupations. **Absence of a separate Ministry of Local Self-Government had therefore resulted in many important matters concerning local bodies being neglected.**

Referring to slum clearance work which constituted an important aspect of the work of local bodies he said that even as they were doing their best in this matter, new slums were comming into existence in cities like Bombay and Madras. To tackle this problem, local bodies were in need of enormous funds, but as provision made for such works in the Second Plan was very meagre, they were unable to undertake those works. Therefore, this Council should try to impress upon the Planning Commission the urgency of the problems which local bodies were faced with and persuade them to allot reasonable amounts for housing schemes, parks, markets, and similar amenities. He also referred to the urgent need for providing water-supply in local board areas and urged the Union Government to make sufficient financial grants.

Union Governments's Apathy

Mr. I. D. Jalan, West Bengal Minister, also complained that **the Government of India was not sufficiently seized of the urgency and seriousness of the problems facing local bodies in the country and said water-supply was one of those problems.** He referred to the correspondence between the West Bengal Government and the Union Government in this behalf

and said that enven after long and protracted correspondence, his Government did not know where it stood in regard to its obligations to local bodies, as communications from the Union Government were vague and contradictory. It was very difficult to understand the attitude of the Union Government, he added. Mr. Jalan said that the responsibilities of local bodies in West Bengal had considerably increased as a result of the heavy influx of refugees from East Bengal and unless Central assistance was given in liberal measure, local bodies would be unable to stand the strain on their slender resources.

Even in regard to his Government's suggestion for levying Terminal Tax on passengers and goods with a view to increasing the revenue of local bodies, the Union Government hod not yet communicated their decision although the suggestion was placed before the Taxation Enquiry Committee.

Better Method of Control

Mr. Gopal Rao Ekbote, Local Administration Minister, Hyderabad, pleaded for be tter control by Govt. of local bodies and suggested that **a better method of reforming erratic ones might be devised instead of following the existing one of supersession and dissolution which seemed to be repugnant to the democratic spirit.** He further suggested that something should be done to attract men of character, ability and integrity as members of local bodies and that Government reports on the administration of these institutions should be placed before the legislature to enable representatives of the people to discuss and offer suggestions for their improvement.

He further suggested that the Union Ministry of Health might consider the need for establishing a Research Bureau on Local Administration attached to it and that an expert committee of officers might be appointed to prepare a suitable syllabus for training officers for panchayats.

Mr. Prem Singh Rathore, Minister for Panchayats, Madhya Bharat, and Messrs. T. Chenniah, K. Mallppa, A. B. Nageswara Rao, Abdul Mathib Majumdar and Bhola Prasad Shastry, Minister for Local Self-Government in Mysore, Coorg, Andhra, Assam and Bihar respectively, and Mr. B. D. Deshmukh, Deputy Minister, Bombay, and S.N. Sharma, Rural Development Minister, Assam, spoke about problems confronting local bodies in their States and pleaded for sufficient financial assistance from the Union Government.

Recommendations

The Central Councils which concluded its session on September 16 recommended that village panchayats should have certain obligatory or compulsory functions and in addition certain discretionary functions. In the case of socio-economic activities in rural areas, the Council recommended that panchayats should get first preference and co-operative societies second preference.

A System of Government guarantee of municipal loans, especially in the case of larger municipalities was also recommended. The Council said that municipalities should be encouraged to expand their incomes from public undertakings of commercial nature and the State Governments should not except for compelling reasons, take over such service from municipalities.

The Council regretted that adequate emphasis had not been laid in the Second Plan on Development of local self-government, which, in their opinion, was fundamental to the progress of the country. The Council also recommended the formation of a proper cadre for employees of panchayats and local bodies.

The chairman announced that Mr. C. D. Barfiwala, Director of the All-India Institute of local Self-Government, was being requested to draft a model act for local bodies which would be circulated to states.

New Section in Union Health Ministry

A separate section, it is learnt, is to be created in the Union Health Ministry to deal with matters relating to local bodies and panchayats. It will be under a Joint Secretary. Although local bodies and panchayats are in the charge of State Governments, there are some health and sanitation schemes of the Central Government which are implemented through the local bodies.

Madras White Paper On Local Bodies' Reform

A White Paper containing Madras Government's promised conclusions on reform of local bodies in the State was placed before the State Assembly and Council on September 29.

The White Paper recalls that in December 1953, a member of the Assembly suggested on the floor of the House, the desirability of Government setting up a High Level Committee "to go into the whole question of reorganization of local boards (district boards and panchayats), as there was a lot of confusion regarding Local Administration. This suggestion was accepted by the Government, but the appointment of such a Committee was postponed for about a year or so, after the new district boards came into being.

Meantime the Planning Commission has been emphasizing the need for developing village panchayats as the agency for village planning and development, and thus provide the foundation of the entire system of national planning. The proposals for the reorganisation of panchayats have accordingly been reviewed in the light of progress made so far in the implementation of the National Extension Service and other Rural Development Schemes and the further development of these schemes during the Second Five-Year Plan period.

In moving the budget demand in the Assembly in March 1956, the Minister for Local Administration, Mr. S. S. Ramaswami Padayachi, promised to place before the Legislature, proposals for reorganization of local bodies in the State, before the general elections. The whole subject of local administration has been reviewed by the Government with reference to these assurances.

Provisional Conclusions

Government have come to certain provisional conclusions on the subject. They have decided to place these provisional conclusions before the Legislature, for its consideration and to invite it to set up a Committee of both the Houses in order to scrutinize the proposals and advise Government before final decisions are taken in regard to the reorganization of local bodies.

"It is hoped that this procedure (which was followed recently in respect of proposals regarding reform and development of education) will serve the purpose underlying the suggested appointment of a "High Level Committee".

Village Panchayats

Following are the provisional conclusions of Government regarding reform of Village Panchayat Organisation:

While legislation to introduce the necessary amendments to the present Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, will take some time, for immediate practical needs for purposes of co-ordinating and executing the development schemes, a five-year programme of development and reform of Panchayat organisation has been evolved in consultation with the Additional Development Commissioner, the Joint Development Commissioner and the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards. The details of the scheme are set out below :

Three Objectives

First objective : There are at present numerous non-panchayat villages in every district. When the programme is completed, there should be no village in the State without a panchayat constituted under the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950.

Second objective : The Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, has made provision for the performance by panchayats of several new functions in addition to the functions which they used to have before. The old functions may be referred to as pre-1950 functions and the new functions, as post-1950 functions. In general, few panchayats are performing any post-1950 functions. Not all panchayats are performing even pre-1950 functions efficiently.

Some of them are guilty of misuse of public funds. When this programme of development and reform is completed,

all panchayats should have acquired experience in performing the post-1950 functions as well as pre-1950 functions. The general standard of efficiency of panchayat administration should be raised, so as to be at least on a par with the general standard of efficiency of municipal administration. Misuse of public funds should be eliminated.

Third objective: There is a serious reproach against the present system of panchayat organisation that it aggravates faction where it exists and creates new factions where none existed. The system should be reformed, so as to reduce this evil, to the maximum extent practicable.

Linkage With N.E.S. Programme

Linkage with National Extension Service Programme: There is already a phased programme for the introduction of the National Extension Service Scheme in successive years, so as to cover all the villages of the State, without exception, by the end of the Second Five-Year Plan period. The execution of this programme of Development and Reform of Panchayat Organisation should be linked to the execution of the National Extension Service programme.

Linkage with Elementary Education (Intensive Development) Scheme: It has been already proposed in the White Paper on Education that a scheme known as the Elementary Education (Intensive Development) Scheme should be framed and introduced in selected areas in successive years, so as to secure that enrolment in elementary schools is made compulsory and universal in primary school standards within five years of introduction of the scheme, and so as further to secure that enrolment in primary and higher elementary school standards is raised to not less than 80 per cent of all children of elementary school-age. The execution of this scheme and the execution of the programme of development and reform of panchayat organisation should be linked with one another.

Organisation of new panchayats: Organisation of new panchayats in non-panchayat villages of every development block in which the National Extension Service Scheme has been already introduced should be completed before Oct. 2, 1958. The organisation of new panchayats in non-panchayat villages of every Development Block in which the National Extension Service Scheme may be hereafter introduced, should be completed within the first 12 months of operation of the scheme.

Grouping of Panchayats

Constitution of "Panchayat Union Joint Committees": Provision exists in Section 39 of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, for panchayats joining together to form 'Joint Committees' for the performance of specified functions. This provision should be made use of in a systematic manner (in all the districts except the Nilgiris, where villages are scattered and grouping of panchayats is not practicable) so as to secure the following results:—

(i) Every Development Block should be divided in a convenient manner, into five "Panchayat Union Circles". The panchayat union circle should consist of a group of contiguous villages, with an aggregate population of not less than 10,000 and not more than 15,000. As for as possible, every panchayat union circle should be situated wholly within one constituency of the district board.

(ii) For every panchayat union, a joint committee should be constituted. Every panchayat should be represented on this committee by one member. The district board should also be represented on it (the member of the district board in whose constituency the panchayat union circle is situated should be made an 'ex-officio' member of the Joint Committee of the Panchayat Union).

(iii) The Joint Committee of the Panchayat Union should be made responsible for the performance of all post-1950 functions, including—(a) the implementation of the National Extension Service Scheme; and (b) the implementation of the Elementary Education (Intensive Development) Scheme.

The constitution of Joint Committees in all panchayat union circles of any Development Block should be completed within six months of the completion of organisation of new panchayats in that block.

Establishment of Panchayat Union Funds :— Two funds known as the "Panchayat Union (General) Fund" and "Panchayat Union (Education) Fund" should be set up for every panchayat union circle and administered by the Panchayat Joint Committee.

Government grants for village works under the National Extension Service Scheme, as well as local contributions in respect of such work, should be paid into and accounted for through the Panchayat Union (General) Fund.

The Elementary Education (Intensive Development) Scheme should be financed from the Panchayat Union (Education) Fund. Government grants for Elementary Education (liberalised in accordance with such decisions as may be taken by Government on the proposals outlined in this behalf, in the White Paper on Education) should be paid into and accounted for through this Fund.

Executive Officers

Executive officers and executive assistants :— The National Extension Service Scheme provides for the recruitment, training and appointment of 10 Grama Sevaks in every Development Block. Two of these officers should be allotted to every panchayat union circle and appointed as Executive Officer and Executive Assistant respectively, of the Joint Committee of the Panchayat Union. These functions should be unified with the functions of Village Level. Worker under the National Extension Service Scheme. The emoluments of these officers should continue to be paid by Government and their services should be made available free of charge to the Joint Committee.

Promotion of Cooperative Leadership

Reforms designed to promote co-operative leadership and discourage faction :—

(i) Different villages should not be compulsorily united in groups to form panchayats, unless this is required in order to secure a minimum population of 500 for every panchayat.

(ii) Under the existing rule issued under Section 6 (1) of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, the strength of a Panchayat, with a population of less than 5,000, will range from 5 to seven according to a graduated scale. The number of members of panchayats should be increased, so as to diminish unhealthy competition for membership and so as also to facilitate participation in the panchayat by the natural leaders of different social and economic groups in the village. A new rule should be framed for this purpose. There should be one member for every 100 people for the first 500 population and one member for every 200 people in excess of 500, subject to a maximum of 15. (The maximum authorised under Section 6 (3) of the present Act is 15.)

(iii) The present system of open voting for Class II panchayats should be continued; but the rules should be revised and procedure improved so as :—

(a) to give effect to the principle of proportional representation ; and

(b) to ensure orderliness.

(iv) The present system of direct election of the president, independently of the members of the panchayat should be abolished. The pre-1950 system of election of president by the members of the panchayat should be restored.

(v) The system of election by the panchayat, of its representative on the Joint Committee of the Panchayat Union, should give effect to the principle of near-unanimity, as desired by the Government of India. The choice of the representative should be endorsed by not less than two-thirds of all the members of the panchayat.

(vi) The term of office of members of panchayats is at present limited to three years. This should be raised to five years.

Decentralisation

Decentralisation and strengthening of administrative machinery :— (i) Revenue Divisional Officers: The primary responsibility for executing this programme within each revenue division will be vested in the Revenue Divisional Officer concerned. He will also be responsible for co-ordinating the execution of this programme with the implementation of the National Extension Service Scheme, Community Projects, Local Development Works Scheme and the Five-Year Plan generally.

(a) In order to enable the Revenue Divisional Officer to discharge this responsibility, statutory powers in relation to Class II panchayats which are at present exerciseable by Regional Inspectors, will be delegated to and vested in the Revenue Divisional Officer powers. These powers will include the exercise of statutory powers in relation to Panchayat Union Joint Committees also.

(b) The present staff of District Panchayat Officer will be increased and the staff will be re-allotted so as to provide one Panchayat Officer for every Revenue Division. He will be the Personal Assistant of the Revenue Divisional Officer in the execution of this programme. The present staff of Deputy Panchayat Officers will be increased *pari passu* with the increase of work relating to organisation and administration of panchayats. The Deputy Panchayat Officers of each Revenue Division will work under the immediate control of the Panchayat Officer attached to the Revenue Division.

(c) The Block Development Committee set up for advising and reviewing the implementation of the National Extension Service Scheme in each development block will also advise on, and review the execution of this programme.

(ii) Collectors :— The responsibility for guiding, supervising and exercising administrative control over Revenue Divisional Officers in the discharge of their duties relating to the execution of this programme, will be vested in Collectors. So much of the statutory powers at present vested in the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards as may be necessary for the discharge of this responsibility will be delegated to and vest in Collectors.

(iii) Limitation of functions of Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards in relation to panchayats :—

(a) The functions at present performed by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards in respect of district boards, municipalities. Municipal Commissioners and Regional Inspectors will continue unchanged.

(b) Similarly his functions in relation to Class I panchayat and the Executive Officers of such panchayats will continue unchanged.

(c) The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards and the Regional Inspectors will cease to perform statutory functions in relation to Class II panchayats after the delegation of such powers to Collectors and Revenue Divisional Officers.

(iv) Panchayat Officers and Deputy Panchayat Officers—There will be one Panchayat Officer attached to every Revenue division. There will be as many Deputy Panchayat Officers as may be found essentially necessary with reference to the progress in the execution of the programme from year to year. This staff of Panchayat Officers and Deputy Panchayat Officers will continue to be under the administrative control of the inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards; the Panchayat Officers will perform common functions in respect of both class I and class II panchayats. Their work in respect of class I panchayats will be under the control of Regional Inspectors and their work in respect of class II panchayats, under the control of Revenue Divisional Officers. The Revenue Divisional Officers may be invested with such powers of disciplinary control over Panchayat Officers and Deputy Panchayat Officers as may be necessary for securing the due performance of functions relating to class II panchayats.

District Boards

Following are the provisional conclusions on the future of District Boards :

Consistent with the purpose underlying the proposed scheme for development and reform of village panchayats during the

next five years from 1957-58, district boards will be continued without any changes in their structure of composition.

The question whether they should be retained or abolished with or without replacement may be considered at the end of that period. During the transitional period, the following changes will be made :—

(i) The responsibility for elementary education should be progessively transferred from district boards and devolved upon panchayat union joint committees, in pursuance of the Elementary Education (Intensive Development) Scheme.

(ii) The responsibility for Maternity and Child Welfare should also be similarly transferred progressively from district boards and devolved upon panchayat union joint Committee.

(iii) The responsibility for village roads at present vested in district boards should be taken over in part by panchayats and in part by panchayat union joint committees.

(iv) The process by which responsibility for 'Major District Roads' is being taken over by the State Government should be completed and all district boards relieved of the responsibility of all Major District Roads.

(v) The district boards should continue to be responsible till the end of the transitional period for other district roads, high schools and dispensaries.

Municipalities

Regarding municipalities Government are of the opinion that the existing arrangements are generally satisfactory. Certain improvements are however, proposed to be made. They are designed to ensure that municipal councils and their chairmen are vested with powers necessary for securing effective execution of measures decided upon by councils.

Following are the provisional conclusions regarding Municipalities :—

Proposals for the amendment of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, will be formulated, whatever legislation is called for after decisions are reached on the following proposals :

(1) The strength of the Municipal Council for towns with a population exceeding 2 lakhs may be fixed at 42.

(2) The present system of election of chairman from among councilors may be retained.

(3) Three-fifths majority required to carry a motion of no-confidence against the Chairman and Vice-Chairman may be increased to two-thirds.

(4) A service for Revenue Officers may be constituted under section 77-A of the Madras District Municipalities Act.

(5) Appointments to posts, the maximum pay of which exceeds Rs. 30 per mensem, may be made by the Appointment Committee, appointments to all other posts being made by the Chairman who may also make temporary appointments in emergencies.

(6) A Statutory Committee to dispose of tax appeals may be set up. In this connection, the question of setting up Standing Committees may be considered.

(7) The Chairman may be made responsible for formulating the general policy of the Council and he may be empowered to draw the attention of the Commissioner to any neglect or waste and to call far information from the Commissioner on any matter relating to municipal administration.

(8) The Chairman may be given concurrent powers to enforce the execution of resolutions.

Town Planning

Development Committees For U. P. Towns

The U. P. Government have decided to constitute development committees for cities and towns of the State to examine and co-ordinate development and building activities of various Government departments and local bodies, which will also provide a forum for ventilation of demands and grievance of the public. Development committees have already been formed in Lucknow and Varanasi. The decision of these committees will be binding on all concerned.

There have been complaints that even Government departments have been disregarding the master plans for various cities and towns and undertaking constructions without sending their schemes to the local bodies for prior approval. This has resulted in haphazard development of towns and defeated the very purpose of master plans. There have also been complaints of lack of co-ordination between Government and local bodies in matters of constructions. The development committees are expected to stop all such unauthorised and haphazard constructions on the part of Government departments.

The development committee in Lucknow is headed by Mr. Ali Zaheer, Minister for Local Self-Government, and includes the Health Minister, Shri C. B. Gupta, Vice-Chancellor of Lucknow University, the Director of Education, the Director of Medical and Public Health Services, the Inspector-General of Police, the Town and Village Planner to U. P. Government, the District Magistrate of Lucknow, the Chief Engineers of PWD and LSG, and the Administrator of Municipal Board and Improvement Trust. The development committee for Banaras (Varanasi) is headed by Mr. Kamlapati Tripathi, Minister for Information, and its members are: The Commissioner of Banaras Division, the Chief Engineers of PWD and LSG, the Town and Village Planner to U. P., the Additional Chief Engineer PWD and the Administrator of Municipal Board and the Improvement Trust, Banaras.

The development committee for Lucknow at its first meeting approved 15 schemes, costing about Rs. 1 crore, for the development of the city. These schemes include development of plots for bungalows, middle class houses, cottages, rebuilding of localities, hostels and colleges and shopping centres. More than a thousand bungalows and houses would be constructed on these plots after they have been developed.

Delhi's interim General Plan

The Institute of Town Planners, India, is calling a conference in New Delhi to study interim general plan for the re-development of Greater Delhi. The Union Ministry of Health is awaiting a detailed report of nearly 600 pages on the various aspects of the plan from its Town Planning Organisation. The Ministry will circulate copies of the plan and a brief summary of this report to the Institute of Town Planners, the Delhi State Government, local bodies and some leading industrial, commercial and social organisations to elicit their opinon. The Health Ministry proposed to associate citizens of Delhi and to secure their maximum co-operation in finalising and implementing the plan.

An organisation is being set up under the administrative control of the Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority to conduct a civic survey of Old Delhi. The survey, which is proposed to be conducted on an "emergency basis", will be completed in about eight months. The re-development of Old Delhi will be taken in hand after the report of this survey has been accepted by the Government. The main object of the survey is to estimate the number of old dilapidated commercial and residential houses which are not only unfit, but unsafe for human habitation and which can be demolished.

Re-Planning Badrinath Town

The U. P. Government have under consideration three schemes for the protection of Badrinath town from erosion and avalanches. It was proposed to construct spurs to save the existing town and temple from the erosion of the Alakhnanda river. A scheme has been prepared for the afforestation of the Narayan mountain to prevent the formation of avalanches. The State Town and Village Planner had prepared a master plan for the construction of a new town on the Nar mountain. A scheme was also under consideration for supplying hydro-electricity to the town.

Rs. 110 Lak Scheme for Vishwanath Temple

The U.P. Government have drawn up a Rs. 110-lakh plan to turn the Vishwanath Temple area in Banaras (Varanasi) into a beauty spot. The plan envisages an island of open space, gardens and lawns with the Vishwanath, Annapurna and Dhondhraj Ganesh shrines in the centre in place of the present dingy looking, congested and filthy structures.

The plan had been proposed by Mr. Kamlapati Tripathi, State's Minister for Information, when the reconstruction of Banaras ghats, now under execution, was decided on in view of the fact that the present state of the shrines and the surrouding areas. which were of international tourist importance did not enhance national prestige.

Bombay's Second Sachivalaya

A Rs. 3-crore housing programme for offices of the enlarged bilingual Bombay State and to provide residential accommodation for members of the State Lagislature and Government employees, has been formulated by the State Government. Another six-storeyed building, estimated to cost Rs. 60 lakhs, will be constructed behind the present Sachivalaya to accommodate additional offices of the Government. The annexe will be linked with the Sachivalaya by bridges on every floor.

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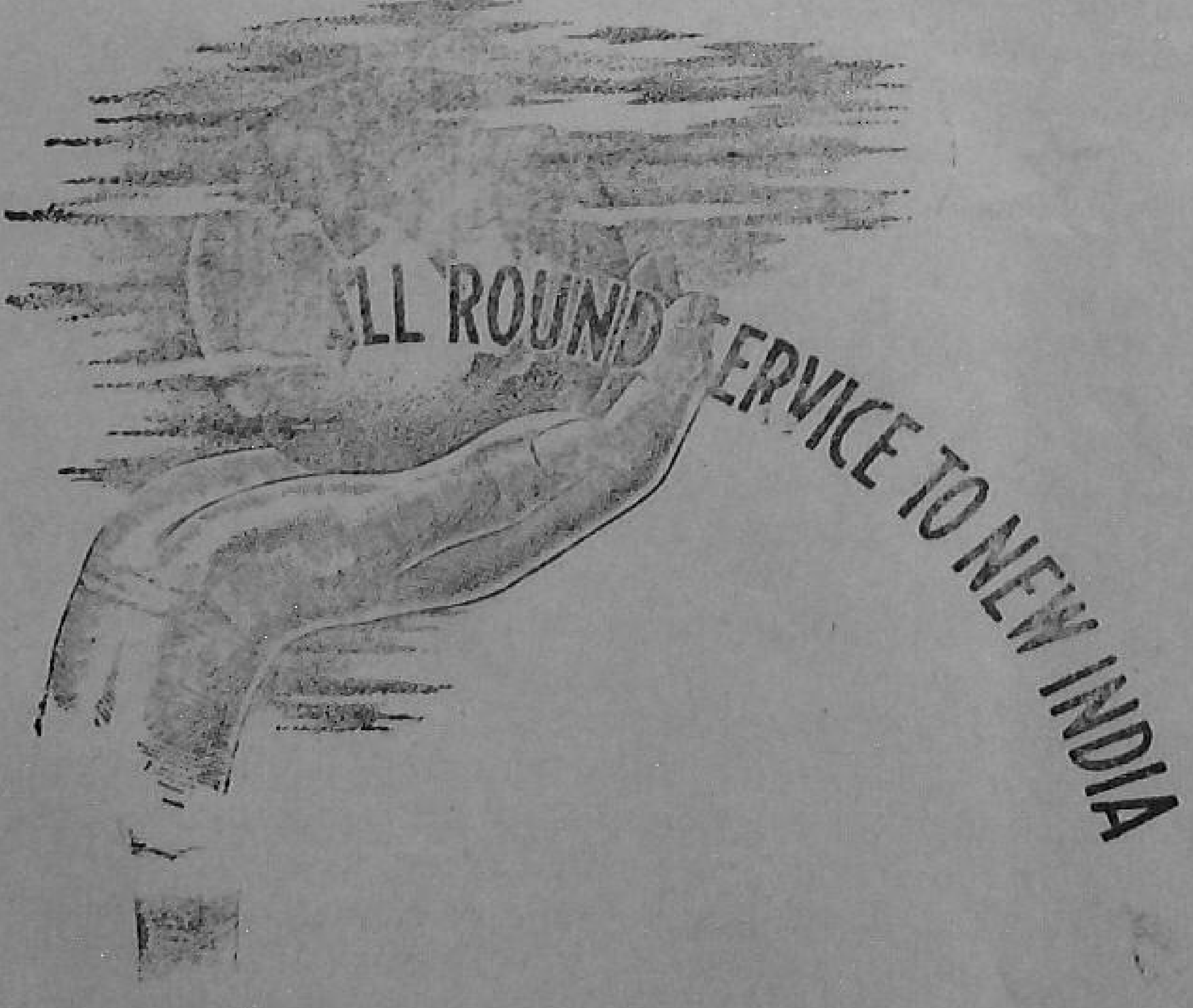

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Research In Rural Housing

An essentially indigenous basis is being laid out for the promotion and execution of new projects and important schemes in the field of rural housing, which constitute the bulk of India's vast housing construction programme. In this field, the urgent need for developing new methods and increasing the effective use of local building techniques and materials is now clearly recognised. With this aim in view, a survey of rural housing has been carried out by the Central Building Research Institute. The survey has resulted in the collection of some very valuable information about the old established practices prevalent today in various parts of the country, which have been evolved mostly with a view to utilising locally available material and are in keeping with the exigencies of climate, social structure and economy of the village folk.

From a study of the report based on the findings of this survey we learn how, for instance, the influence of local and regional soil and climatic conditions is operative in the use of *machans* or raised bamboo-platform floors in the villages of Assam, where sub-soil moisture is a constant menace and there is always danger of flood water; and also in the choice of burnt bricks for walls in the plains of Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, where the wide range of weather changes makes necessary the use of a better weather-resisting material than the usual and cheaper clods of earth and cow-dung.

The report of the survey also contains information about what is being done by the rural housing authorities in various States towards finding ways and means of making maximum possible use of indigenous material and simple constructional methods developed from traditional practices in each particular region.

Madras Co-operatives To Make Cheap Housing

The Madras Ministers for Co-operation and Housing, addressing the annual conference of honsing co-operative societies in the State in Madras city on September 16, asked co-operative housing societies to concentrate their attention on providing cheap houses for low-income groups. Mr. A. B. Shetty, Minister for Co-operation, said that so far 7,000 houses had been constructed by 195 housing societies in the State and another thousand were under construction. A programme for the construction 3,000 houses with State aid to the extant of Rs. 2 crores, had just been launched.

The Housing Minister, Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam, called upon housing societies to undertake research work and evolve a new process which would enable them to build cheap houses with available local meterials. Such a process alone could solve the housing problem, particularly at a time when building materials like steel and cement were prohibitively costly, he said.

Houses For Defence Services

India's Defence Minister, Dr. K. N. Katju, said in Trivandrum on September 28 that the Government of India had framed a Rs. 30-crore scheme to provide "extra married accommodation" for Service personnel, which was expected to be ready by the end of 1958.

Houses For Coal-Miners

The Government of India have sanctioned a new housing scheme for coal mines. Under the scheme nearly 30,000 two-roomed houses for coal miners would be constructed within the next five or six years, the entire cost being met from the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund, in force since 1947. The workers will be charged a rent of only Rs. 2 per month.

Million Rupee Penalty For Unauthorised Construction

The New Delhi Municipal Committee has demanded Rs. 10,43,175 as composition fee from the owner of the buildings at Sujan Singh Park to regularise the constructions which are said to be unauthorised. According

to the Committee's building by-laws, 25 percent of the total cost of an unauthorised building will be charged as composition fee if the Committee agrees to regularise the construction, instead of demolishing the unauthorised construction altogether. The buildings at Sujan Singh Park were constructed duting the War and the building plans were submitted to the Committee only in 1951, long after the buildings were completed.

The Delhi State Finance Department had asked the Committee to prosecute the owner while the Superintending Engineer (Health Services) and the Land and Development Officer, New Delhi, have suggested issuing of completion certificates under certain conditions.

Rs. 9 Laks Loan For Madras Trust

The City Improvement Trust, Madras has received a further loan of Rs. 9 lakhs from the Madras Government for its slum improvement and housing schemes. This is in addition to Rs. 33 lakhs received from the Union Government for Low Income Group Housing and development of house sites and Rs. 11 lakhs received from the State Government for slum improvement schemes.

To overcome shortage of vacant sites, the Chairman of the Trust, Capt. D. Gnanaolivu is recommending to the Trust Board that vertical development could be attempted, and a system of six or eight lower class flats with all amenities may be thought of instead of small garden houses.

Low Income Group Housing

The Union Govenment has written to all the State Governments that a scrutiny of some of the plans and specifications relating to the construction of houses under its Low Income Group Housing Scheme, which had been forwarded to Delhi by certain State Governments, revealed that they are not quite satisfactory and require modifications and improvements. The Union Government has further advised that the relevant plans, layouts, estimates, etc., should be got scrutinised by the Government Architect, or the Chief Engineer, P. W. D., of the State, or by the Housing Board if any.

Commenting on the above, Capt. D. Gnanaolivu, Chairman of the Madras City Improvement Trust, said that the remarks of the Union Government do not apply in the case of the Low Income Group Housing Scheme under implementation by the Trust. The five type-designs adopted by the Trust for construction of houses under the scheme, were scrutinised by the Chief Engineer P. W. D., Madras, and were later approved by the State Government.

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Rs. 6.53 Crore Slum Clearance Scheme In U. P.

The U. P. Government have prepared a Rs. 6.53-crore scheme for the clearance of 75 slum areas in six big towns of the State during the Second Plan period. The scheme will be launched after it receives approval from the Government of India.

Under the scheme slum clearance work will be taken up in Kanpur at a cost of Rs. 3.95 crores, Agra at Rs. 1.24 crores, Allahabad at Rs. 60 lakhs, Lucknow at Rs. 57 lakhs, Varanasi at Rs. 19 lakhs and Meerut at Rs. 8 lakhs.

The Government of India are expected to provide about Rs. 4.90 crores as loan and subsidy for the execution of the scheme.

Detailed projects are being worked out in each town, but according to preliminary plans, 12,290 slum families will be benefited in Kanpur where an equal number of housing units are proposed to be constructed in double-storey blocks of buildings on various sites. Most of the slum areas in Kanpur have either already been acquired or are in the process of acquisition.

In Allahabad, the Improvement Trust has selected four slum areas, for clearance and development into healthy colonies. The Trust proposes to carry-out a detailed civic survey of these areas to ascertain the number of families for whom alternative accommodation will be required. Double-storey one-room tenements will be constructed for the slum dwellers.

In Lucknow, where 10 slum areas will be cleared during the Second Plan period, nearly 4,000 families will be re-housed under hygienic conditions. Out of these, 3,000 families will be given developed plots costing Rs. 1,000 each and 1,000 families will be rehoused in one-room tenements costing Rs. 2,700 each.

It is proposed to construct 4,276 tenements in Agra to clear 17 slum areas spread over 129 acres at a cost of Rs. 1.24 crores.

In Varanasi, where 12 slum areas are proposed to be cleared, 623 single-storey tenements will be constructed and 217 open plots will be developed for 840 slum families. Nearly 440 slum-dwellers will be rehoused at the existing slum sites and 399 will be rehabilitated on alternative sites almost adjacent to the existing areas.

The allocation of funds by the Government of India is awaited for the execution of the scheme.

Bombay's Squatter Colonies

Holding their handkerchiefs to their noses a party of cityfathers led by the Mayor last month visited three of Greater Bombay's largest squatter colonies in which thousands live in the most appalling conditions.

The object of the survey, the Mayor, Mr. Salebhoy Abdul Kader, explained, was to draw up "a comprehensive plan" for improving sanitary conditions in the suburbs.

It has been estimated that there are about 60 squatter colonies in the suburbs with a population of nearly 50,000.

Squalid Conditions

The visitors were shocked by the squalid conditions in which unattended children lolled about in what passed for streets, and what was even more shocking was the fact that in these "homes", some with a floor-area of barely 50 square feet, as many as eight or nine people lived. The Golibar colony which was first visited by the cityfathers has no conveniences of any kind, and, for water supply the squatters depend on a couple of taps or a chance leak in the mains.

The party also visited the municipal-sponsored colony at Jogeshwari. This colony was opened to rid the city of its squatters. Here, although the huts are no improvement over the structures in the squatter colonies, the redeeming feature is that they are not built in irregular rows. The municipality

has provided a number of taps, street lights, a dispensary and a school, and sanitation is not entirely neglected.

National Seminar on Slum Clearance

A National Seminar on slum clearance will be held in Bombay in December under the auspices of the Indian Conference of Social Work.

The Municipal Commissioner has suggested to the Corporation to give a grant of Rs. 2,000 to the organisation to defray the seminar's cost which is estimated at Rs. 18,000.

Calcutta's Rs. 46 Crore Plan

Calcutta Corporation's Ex-Mayor and the present chairman of the Development and Planning Sub-Committee, Mr. Naresh Nath Mukerji, M. L. A., in a letter forwarding Calcutta Corporation's Five-Year Plan and its slum clearance scheme, addressed to the Prime Minister, has urged that even if the Corporation's Rs. 46 crore scheme was not sanctioned, the Planning Commission should take into consideration two important items—augmentation of Water Supply and Slum Clearance.

Dwelling on the problems facing Corporation as a result of the continued influx of refugees, Mr. Mukerji pointed out that the city had an area of only 28 to 29 square miles and if the bustees could be removed from the city and replaced by four storeyed pucca tenements, a great deal of space would be released.

Referring to the need for the augmentation of the filtered water supply, Mr. Mukerji said that the Corporation's water mains were all worn out, being 40 to 50 years old and they must be renewed.

Wrong Method of Town Improvement

Calcutta Corporation's Planning Adviser, Dr. Dey, told a conference of corporators that Calcutta and other Indian cities and towns had so far erred in their improvement work done directly or through agencies like the Improvement Trust. Opening out wide roads and wiping out bits of slums in its wake had resulted in no improvement of the health of the so-called "bettered areas" adjoining the new wide roads or old roads "improved" by widened alignments. Dr. Dey recalled the Madras Mayor's warning sounded at the Indian Mayors' Conference in Bombay in July, 1955, that **if the slum clearance projects of the cities were not given effect to, they will soon turn into vast slum areas.** Dr. Dey, said that Calcutta's bustees were rather worse than those of Delhi's. The bustees of Delhi had given a shock to the Prime Minister, when he had visited them and Mr. Nehru had expressed the opinion 'that they should be burnt down to the very roots'.

MONSOON CLOUDS

Architectural Survey of Indian Temples

The Department of Archaeology of the Government of India has undertaken a systematic and comprehensive study of the architecture of ancient temples in India Two officers, one each for North and South India were appointed in this connexion in October 1955. As a preliminary to field work, the officers engaged themselves in compiling a standard list of technical architectural terms, on the basis of ancient texts on architecture, inscriptions and living traditional sthapatis and silpins.

In North India, a systematic survey was made of the group of temples at Khajuraho. It was felt that the temples covered a period longer than was usually accepted, namely, 950 to 1050 A.D. It was noticed that there was an older tradition of granite architecture at the place and that the transition from granite to sandstone was gradual.

The officer for North India, in addition to completing the survey of all temples in Central India, including a majority of the Chandella and Paramara temples, proposes to undertake a study of the Gupta and late Gupta temples of North India.

In South India, about 20 temples of known dates, in Chittoor, North Arcot, South Arcot and Tanjore districts, were examined with a view to obtaining firm data to form the basis for further study. Further, an intensive study of all Pallava monuments—rock-cut caves, monolithic rathas and structural temples—was taken up.

The officer for South India will also make a survey of rock-cut monuments in North Arcot, South Arcot. Tiruchirappalli, Ramanathapuram Madurai. Tirunelveli and Salem districts and in Travancore-Cochin State.

Rs. One Crore National Theatre

The Government of India have decided to build a National Theatre in New Delhi at a cost of Rs. one crore. This follows the acceptance of the report submitted by the two architects, Nawab Zain Yar Jung of Hyderabad and Mr. Man Singh Rana of the Department of Architecture of the Delhi Polytechnic, who were sent abroad to study the national theatres and opera houses in Europe and the United States.

U. S. Embassy Building

Laying the corner-stone of the U. S. Embassy buildings in Chanakyapuri on September 1, Mr. Earl Warren, Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court, said he was conscious of the fact that Chanakya was India's first great diplomat. In his time in 300 B. C. as a diplomat and a statesman, **Chanakya wrote: "Sovereignty lies in the people" and a "ruler should not displease his people."**

Threat To New Delhi Buildings

A Committee of experts appointed by the Central Works and Housing Ministry has come to the tentative conclusion that the sub-soil water in New Delhi has risen on an average of six inches per year in many places.

The water now stands at some places as near as two to five feet below the surface and some of the trees are already dying owing to their root system being under water.

So far as the safety of buildings is concerned, the committee fesels that there is no immediate cause for panic. As the water table has not attained equilibrium and a further rise is not ruled out, there is, however, in the opinion of the committee, reason for caution.

One of its most important conclusions is that lowering the water table too fast might also be fraught with danger. Where the foundation soil is clay, it can shrink when dewatered, leading to an uneven settlement of the foundations of a building which, in turn can result in cracks in its walls and roofs.

It is an engineer's dilemma. On the one hand further neglect of the problem can endanger the safety of buildings and the well-being of trees and gardens ; on the

other if tubewell pumping is resorted to on an intensive scale, it can still cause subsidence due to variations in the foundation strata.

In Kansas City a lowering of the water table was accompanied by damage to many houses. Mexico City had a similar experience. As Delhi's soil differs from that of Kansas and Mexico, there is no danger of the same scale of damage here.

How sensitive Delhi's buildings are to further variations of sub-soil water level remains to be determined. This would require intensive research by experts in ground water, soil mechanics and foundation engineering. Practically no progress has been made though the matter was first mooted three years ago. Evidently, co-ordination and administrative and financial red-tape are responsible for the delay, said a New Delhi newspaper.

Foam Glass For Building Industry

An achievement of great value to the building industry in India is the development of a process of manufacturing foam glass at the Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute, Calcutta. So far, glass makers in India could not benefit from the advancements made in the manufacture of foam glass in other countries, because in countries like U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. where foam glass has been in production commercially for some time, the details of operations involved are carefully guarded secrets. India had, therefore, to rely entirely on its own scientific and technological resources in the matter.

The process of making foam glass, as evolved at the Institute, consists in melting soda-lime glass of suitable composition, grinding the glass to a fine powder and mixing it intimately with a foaming agent. The mixture is changed into moulds and is heated to a temperature at which the glassy mass swell to many times its original volume. The foamed mass is then taken out of the mould; is carefully hardened and cut into blocks of the desired shape and dimension.

A Mile High Skyscraper

Mr. Frank Lloyd Wright, 87-year-old American architect, has designed a sky-scraper a mile high, to be built of steel and glass on the lake front at Chicago.

The building would be a cantilever structure with the floors extending outward from a central steel and concrete core, like limbs from a tree trunk. It would be four times as high as New York city's Empire State Building, which is now the tallest building in the world.

The plan of the building itself meaures more than 20 feet. The plan shows a building resembling a sword, with its hilt buried in the earth. It provides for 80 floors, surmounted by a tower nearly 500 feet high.

The architect on October 17 said, 1,30,000 persons would be able to work in the building, which would be built around a steel frame-work, with exterior of aluminium or stainless steel.

He estimates the building would cost 100 million dollars.

"Not Kidding"

"Are you kidding?" was the first question asked of famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright as he unveiled a sketch of his proposed mile-high building, at a press conference in Chicago this month. Wright retorted "Are you? Does it look like I'm kidding?"

The legend under the drawing noted the structure would be 528 stories or 5,280 feet plus a 480 foot area as a pinnacle.

Wright contributed some verbal statistics: 130,000 people could work in it comfortably and it would cost about $100,000,000. Wright said he did not think any one individual could finance it.

Clay Buildings of New Mexico

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur was taken up very much by the large use made of moulded "adobe" (local clay) in buildings. In Albuquerque, New Mexico's capital, even Secretariat buildings were built of "adobe." This was a field which India could adopt for reconstruction of her villages, she says.

Delhi To Have More Statues

Several statues of leading personalities connected with the civic life of Delhi, are proposed to be installed in Delhi by the Delhi Municipal Committee this year. The programme also includes installation at traffic islands of statues of common interest portraying the daily life of the people.

Statutes ef British Rulers

The U. P. Government has decided to construct buildings to house the statues of former British officials set up in the pre-independence days and which will now be removed from public places. This is being done in pursuance of a suggestion received from the Government of India. It was proposed to spend Rs. 13 lakhs on the construction of these buildings.

Tilak Statue in Yeotmal

Dr. Rajendra Prasad unveiled a life-size bronze statue of Lokmanya Tilak in Yeotmal on September 13. The statue costing Rs. 30,000 is put up in the Municipal Building compound. The ashes of the Lokmanya preserved for 31 years are encased in the pedestal of the statue.

Mahatma's Statue at Raipur

President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, declined to unveil a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Raipur (Madhya Pradesh) during his visit in September as it did not bear the likeness of the Father of the Nation. The ceremony, which was originally scheduled to be performed by the President on September 14, was performed a day earlier by an 11-year old Harijan girl.

Quit India Memorial

Plans for the erection of a column at Gowalia Tank maidan (Bombay) to commemorate the "Quit India" resolution, passed at the All India Congress Committee meeting on August 8, 1942, have been finalised by the Chairman and Secretary of the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi. Two circular platforms will lead up to the column which will not be more than 30 feet high. It will be adorned at the top with a life-size model in bronze of a sturdy bull.

Memorials to 1857 Martyrs

Memorials for the martyrs of 1857 at a cost of Rs. 9,56,500 are being raised in U.P. These will be situated in Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi, Bithur, Meerut, Jhansi and Allahabad. U. P. Government have also sanctioned Rs. 28,000 for constructing a memorial to Chandra Sekhar Azad, a well-known revolutionary, who was shot dead in the Alfred Park, Allahabad, during the freedom movement. The memorial will be constructed on a 10 ft. pedestal with 3 ft. high bust of the martyr.

Tulsidas Memorial

The U. P. Government has contributed Rs. 20,000 to the Tulsi Memorial Funds. Rs. 1.25 lakhs out of the total target of Rs. 21 lakhs, has so far been collected. The collection work has now been entrusted to Mr. K. K. Birla. The foundation-stone of the Tulsi Memorial will be laid at Rajapur in Banda district in the coming winter by the Union Home Minister, Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant.

Memorial To Kalidas

The proposal of the Madhya Pradesh Government to erect a memorial to Kalidas at Ramtek, near Nagpur, which has been identified as Ramagiri mentioned in "Meghdoot", and which is supposed to have inspired the poet to write his world-famous lyric, has been shelved on the advice of the Union Government that it did not approve of this item of unproductive expenditure, and that it should not be incurred at present. The State Government had allotted Rs. 1 lakh for the purpose in the 1956-57 budget and appointed a committee to decide on the form the monument to Kalidas should take.

Memorial at Geographical Centre

Similarly, the proposal of the Madhya Pradesh Government to erect a memorial at this geographical centre of India has been shelved on the advice of the Union Government. The geographical centre of India under the guidance of Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, Governor of the State, was located at Sihora in Jabalpur district. A provision of Rs. 1 lakh was made in the budget for this purpose also. Engineers and Architects had already visited the centre of India to find out what sort of memorial could be erected there.

Landscape Plans For Chandigarh

Rare trees and plants from as far away as Florida and Sikkim will be brought to Chandigarh shortly as part of the landscape operations in and around the Punjab capital.

The working of the landscape plan for Chandigarh and the lower Siwaliks which overlook the city was reviewed by a body of experts in Delhi on August 30.

The Central Ministry of Agriculture, it is officially stated, will collaborate with the Punjab authorities in this work by undertaking the afforestation of the low-lying hills which form the beckground to the capital. A central Soil Conservation Research Centre is being established in Chandigarh.

Apart from its scenic effect, the task of covering the bare hillocks with trees and shrubs is important for the artificial Sukhna lake in Chandigarh which has just been created at a cost of nearly Rs. 1 crore. The enormous rate of soil erosion in the lower Siwaliks, if unchecked, may rapidly silt the lake. This is regarded as a major threat to what is Northern India's only artificial lake.

On the banks of the Sukhna and the Patiala stream which skirt Chandigarh on three sides are now being planted thousands of trees to end erosion of soil by the monsoon.

At the Delhi meeting, the landscape authorities deferred final decision regarding reclamation of the sandy bed of the Sukhna. An earthen dam has been built across the stream as it enters the plains.

That Chandigarh landscape plans are ambitious and show much imagination is undeniable. A long and dusty strip of land which runs through the city from one end to the other is being converted into what is called the "leisure valley" Riddled with seasonal streams and covered with "sarkanda", the area is now being turfed and its sand dunes remoulded to form green downs with gentle slopes. The banks of the small streams in it are being strengthened.

Another innovation will be the "Japanese garden" proposed to be laid soon. Dwarf trees will be the garden's special feature.

Among the places in India from where plants are being procured for Chandigarh are Bangalore, Lucknow, Indore, and some centres in Madhya Pradesh. Many of these plants are first grown on an experimental basis before large-scale plantation is undertaken in various sectors in Chandigarh.

Plans To Beautify Delhi's Parks

The Delhi Municipal Committee has prepared an ambitious plan to beautify the city's gardens and parks by planting additional ornamental trees, creepers, shrubs and seasonal flowering plants. The purpose is to attract more people to the gardens and to provide for them recreational and picnic spots where they can relax. The main feature of this year's programme is to improve Queen's Gardens. The work of providing a channel and a fountain in the Gardens in front of the Town Hall is nearing completion.

In Roshanara Garden, which is the oldest garden of Delhi, "moonlit night garden", has been planned. The Committee has decided to introduce boating in the lake in the Roshanara Gardens.

It is also proposed to make small parks and traffic islands attractive. A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs is proposed to be spent on the improvement of gardens and parks in the city.

Children's Park Supervisors

The three-week course, organized by the Delhi State Council of Child Welfare to train men and women in the supervision of children's parks was concluded on September 24. Thirty-five people received training and they will be now incharge of the 11 municipal parks, which are looked after by the Council.

(*Continued on page* 62)

Water Supply & Sanitation In Second Plan

Top priority has been assigned to the water supply and sanitation programmes which form an integral part of the health services in the Second Five Year Plan.

A sum of Rs. 23 crores has been provided by the States in the State plans for urban water supply and drainage schemes. The Central Government have earmarked a sum of Rs. 30 crores, in addition, to be distributed as loan to the States for urban water supply and drainage schemes. A special provision of Rs. 10 crores for granting loans towards water supply and drainage schemes in Corporation has also been made by the Central Government.

For rural water supply and sanitation schemes, while the States have provided in their plans a sum of Rs. 28 crores, the Central Government would contribute 50 per cent of the cost of schemes sanctioned under this programme during the Second Plan period.

For the successful implementation of the various schemes under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme, a Central Public Health Engineering Organisation has been established at the Centre by the Health Ministry. The organisation scrutinizes the water supply and sanitation schemes received from state Governments, gives the necessary technical advice and guidance to the various state Governments on these schemes, works out standards and specifications and assists in such training in this field as may appear necessary.

Training Programme

To meet the shortage of trained technical personnel, the Union Government have provided a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs for training in public health engineering. The Health Ministry, in this connection, has prepared a comprehensive training programme in public health engineering for training engineers, overseers, water works and sewage treatment works operators and sanitary inspectors. The programme includes stipends for students and grants for the teaching institutions towards building and equipment.

Facilities for training of engineers leading to master's degree in public health engineering have been available at the All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta, for some time. A similar course has now been arranged at the Engineering College, Madras. It is also proposed to have short courses for three months for engineers and overseers.

Progress of the scheme and adjustments and modifications to be made in the various schemes in the light of the experience gained so far was discussed at the second meeting of the Central Council of Local Self-Government at Ootacamund on September 14 and 15.

Capital's Water Supply

The Health Minister, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, on September 6 informed the members of the Lok Sabha who had expressed doubts about the purity of Delhi's water supply: "Several steps have been taken as a result of which the danger of contamination is greatly lessened and will shortly be completely eliminated". These steps had been taken, she said, on the advice of an *ad hoc* committee which was appointed to devise measure to ensure an adequate water supply for Delhi.

The Deputy Minister, Mrs. M. Chandrasekhar, said that there were 19 areas in Delhi where filtered water supply was not available. People living in these areas, who had to depend on wells, tube-wells or hand pumps for their water supply had been advised to boil the water.

Later in September, however, Delhi's water supply was again faced with, a situation similar to that created by the sudden recession of floods last year. The supply position at the Wazirabad intake pumping station had become uncertain as a result of the washing away of all the river training works like channels, bunds and spurs, constructed last year by the recent floods in the Jamuna.

The Secretary of the Joint Water and Sewage Board said on September 21 that

staps had been taken against the possibility of contamination of water at this point. The flow of the Najafgarh drain, which caused the contamination last year, had been diverted further downstream and bunds constructed at two places to stop any backflow. The water, he further stated, was being examined constantly and so far the quality had been found absolutely normal.

Bombay's Water Supply & Drainage Schemes

Nine schemes, costing over Rs. 35 lakhs, relating to drainage, water supply, etc., in various parts of Bombay State, were approved by the State Board of Health at its meeting at Bombay Sachivalaya on September 21. The schemes, approved by the Board, included those relating to water supply at Jejuri in Poona District, Ajol in Mehsana District, Nergund in Dharwar District and Talikot in Bijapur District and drainage schemes at Bulsar in Surat District and Mehemedabad in Kaira District.

U. P. Schemes for Training Personnel

U. P.'s Public Health Engineering Department, claimed to be the biggest organisation of its kind in the whole of the South East Asia, and capable of executing over Rs. 5 crores worth of water supply and drainage works every year, and which during the First Plan completed works of Rs. 4½ crores in a single year, is taking up three schemes for the training of technical personnel in modern methods of constructing and maintaining water supply and drainage works in the State. The schemes form part of the Second Plan and under them 50 persons will be trained every year.

Two of the schemes, which have been sponsored by the Government of India, offer training for 22 persons every year. Under one of them, two executive engineers and four assistant engineers will be trained for the Master of Engineering Course and eight overseers for the Certificate Course at Roorkee University. Under the other; eight overseers will be sent to the All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta, for the Orientation Course. These technical persons, after the completion of their training, will work as public health engineers, sanitary inspectors, engineering subordinates, etc. in the Department.

The third scheme envisages the training of superintendents and assistant superintendents of the local bodies at the Provincial Hygiene Institute, Lucknow. A batch of 25 such officers has been selected for a fortnight's training.

These training schemes are expected to solve the difficulties in securing sufficient number of trained technical staff for various water supply and drainage works to be launched under the Second Plan,

U. P. Water Meter Factory's New Home

The U. P. Government's Precision Instruments Factory will be housed in a new building opposite the D. A. V. College on the Aishbagh Road, Lucknow, design for which has been prepared by the Town and Village Planning Department. The building will be constructed in an area of eight acres and cost about Rs. 7 lakhs.

Artificial Rain-making in Jharia

The Jharia Water Board has decided to resort to artificial rain-making over its Topchanchi Lake, in view of inadequate rains there and the consequent alarmingly low water level of the lake. To attract tourist traffic, both local and outside, the Board has decided to construct a few pavilions around the lake area with playgrounds for children.

West Bengal Plans

West Bengal will be allotted Rs. 38.50 lakhs for water supply schemes during 1956-57, according to a statement made by the Union Health Minister in the Lok Sabha on August 2. Out of this amount Rs. 13.50 lakhs would be spent for rural water supply scheme.

The Union Minister also said that the allotment of funds for water supply and sanitation schemes during the Second Plan would be made on a year to year basis.

Seventeen Schemes In Andhra

Of the 17 schemes for water-supply in Andhra State, one had been completed during the First Plan period, and the remaining sixteen schemes were being continued in the Second Plan. The most important water-supply scheme was the new Gosthani scheme at Visakhapatnam which was estimated to cost Rs. 116 lakhs. It was designed to serve the Municipality, the Railway the Port and the Defence establishments at Visakhapatnam.

Of the three drainage schemes included in the First Plan, the one at Visakhapatnam had been completed. The Vijayawada drainage scheme was under execution. The Eluru drainage scheme was now sanctioned and it would be taken up during 1956-57.

(*Continued from page* 59)

12 Lakhs Fruit Trees To Be Planted In U. P.

Mr. Baldeo Singh Arya, Parliamentary Secretary, said in Tehri-Garhwal on September 2 that the U. P. Government planned to spent a sum of Rs 24 lakhs over the development of horticulture in the State during the Second Plan period. During this period 12 lakh fruit trees would be planted. The production of fruits in the country was 60 lakh tons. As a person needed at least 3 oz. of fruits per day, the production was insufficient to meet this minimum. Along with the 'grow more food campaign' a grow-more-fruits-campaign was also necessary, Mr. Baldeo Singh said.

Beautifying School Premises

The importance of planning gardens in school premises and beautifying them in other ways has been emphasised by the U. P. Education Department in a circular addressed to the Inspectors of Schools. According to the circular, there has been a marked decline in the interest for developing beautiful school premises. Even in the Government schools having ample space the picture presented is one of bareness and neglect.

The National Water-supply and Sanitation Scheme for rural areas sponsored by the Government of India was now in operation in four units. An amount of Rs. 95 lakhs had been provided in the Second Plan for extending the amenities under the scheme to four more districts.

Pipe Factory Near Quilon

The pipe factory, under construction at Shasthamcottah, a few miles away from Quilon, by the Norwegian experts, is expected to go into production from October. The factory is intended to help in supplying drinking water to the people mostly living near the sea, and is a part of the Norwegian contribution to the Indo-Norwegian Fishing Project at Neendakara near Quilon. Pipes manufactured in the factory will be used by the State Government to supply drinking water to Quilon and the fishing colony at Neendakara.

The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, had laid the foundation stone for the water supply scheme at Quilon in January last.

Scarcity of Pump-sets

Mr. M. Baktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, said on August 2 that on account of scarcity of pump-sets, special facilities might be afforded for import or pump-sets from abroad. He pointed out the real solution would be to set up a plant fo rmanufacture of pump-sets. If any private agency came forward he said, Government would give it all help and facility.

Most Critical Health Problem

Dr. Saiful Anwar of Indonesia, the outgoing Chairman of the South East Asia Regional Committee, of W. H. O. said in New Delhi on September 24 that the most critical of all health problems in South East Asian countries is the shortage of qualified professional manpower. Shortage of qualified medical personnel was the most critical problem and it was appropriate that education and training should constitute a major concern of WHO and Member Governments.

Campaign to Eradicate Malaria In S. E. Asia

The delegates to the WHO Regional Committee, for South East Asia, which held its ninth session in New Delhi from September 24 to 29 accepted in principle a detailed plan for integrated anti-malaria programmes aiming at eradication of the disease in the Region by stages between now and 1961.

The Committee also endorsed the regional programme and budget estimates for W. H.-O.'s work in 1958, formulated recommendations for school health education programmes in S. E. Asia and adopted the Annual Report of the Regional Director, Dr. C. Mani, assessing the general health situation and indicating present and future trends in health policies in the Region.

The session brought together delegates from Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Portugal, Thailand and the United Kingdom. Representatives of the United Nations, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, UNICEF and the UN Technical Assistance Board also attended the meeting.

200 Health Projects

A region-wide programme for 1958, covering about 200 health projects to be carried out jointly by the government and WHO (in many cases also with UNICEF) was approved. The funds, totalling nearly seven million dollars, are expected to be available from these sources—viz., WHO's regular budget, UNICEF and the UN Technical Assistant Fund.

Provision is made in the programme for more than 180 specific health projects related to such fields as control of communicable diseases, maternal and child health, education and training of medical personnel, health education of the public and environmental sanitation.

The agreement on the new malaria programme was discribed by the Committee's Chairman, Dr. Svasti Daengsvang of Thailand, in his closing address as "historic". He added: "Its importance, I believe, lies not only in the fact that malaria has been probably the largest single cause of suffering, premature death and economic loss by which our people are beset and that we now have taken as our object its ultimate eradication."

School Health Education

The group made a number of recommendations on question such as the personnel to be used in school health education programmes, training facilities, improvement of the sanitary environment of schools and the cooperation of government departments and voluntary agencies in the school health education set-up in various countries.

The recommendations highlight the following points :

— The teacher sbould be regarded as a key figure in school health programmes and steps should be taken to ensure that his emoluments permit him to practise in his own life the ideals of healthful living that he preaches ;

— Special courses in health education should be introduced into the curriculum

WELFARE OF WOMEN IN RURAL INDIA

The Picture shows the chief medical attendant at a maternity centre examining a woman.

of teacher-training colleges so that all teachers in service would be qualified to teach the subject ;

— Curricula for health education, as an essential part of general education, should be drawn up in the context of local conditions, needs and attitudes of the population with the cooperation of the various agencies and the people concerned ;

— Active participation of the education, health and other departments should be sought in the planning and execution of school health programmes ;

— In imparting instruction, preference should be given to the socratic rather than didactic methods, thus enabling pupils to participate directly in what is taught ;

— Minimum standards for sanitary arrangements in schools should be laid down and rules of the education department should ensure that these standards are maintained. Village schools with the necessary sanitary facilities could serve as models for pupils and their parents to emulate in their own homes.

W. H. O. Survey of the Region

The progressive trends in the health situation in South East Asia continue, but there are certain negative aspects of the general picture which demand urgent attention, according to a survey of the World Health Organisation's work in the Region, covering the period from July 1956, which formed part of the Annual Report of the Regional Director, Dr. C. Mani.

Dr. Mani's Report conveys a picture of tremendous health activity now going on as an integral part of overall national planning in the countries of the Region. Referring to certain weaknesses of the public health structure in the Region, Dr. Mani draws pointed attention to a lack of supervision of public health programmes and a shortage of personnel at all levels. "It not only persists," Dr. Mani says, "but grows larger as public health programmes expand. I would be failing in my duty, if I did not sound this not of warning."

Shift of Emphasis

As one of the measures which could help this "dangerous lack of supervision, the Regional Director urged a shift of emphasis in the pattern of WHO assistance. He proposed that in future WHO experts should participate less directly in field operations and should devote more time to aiding governments in planning, organisation and supervision of health programmes. Past experience has shown, Dr. Mani states, that owing to numerous local difficulties governments are sometimes not able to take full advantage of very costly WHO—assisted field demonstration projects.

Speaking generally, the past year might be said to have witnessed an upward trend in the birth rate and a downward trend in the death rate, while the infant mortality rate—a truer index of social improvement—has not shown much change.

Trends In Public Health Policy

The Report indicates the following trends in public health policy jointly pursued by the Member Governments and WHO during the past year :—

1. The 'mass campaign' approach in communicable disease control is gradually being diverted towards the integration of these programmes into the general public health services. 2. Malaria control programmes are being accelerated towards eradication of the disease. 3. Tuberculosis control is moving in the direction of chemotherapy treatment in homes (as against sanatoria) with certain newly-discovered drugs. A very important research project in this connection has been set up at Madras. 4. Plague control is likely to assume a different character as a result of research carried out in the WHO-assisted project in the State of Uttar Pradesh, India. 5. Expansion of rural health programmes based on the promotion of the 'rural health centre'—from which all medical activities (both curative and preventive) will emanate—is moving forward with much preparatory work completed. 6. Maternal and child health services have been expanded considerably as

an integral part of the general services rather than as a narrow speciality.

National Health Programmes

The Report expresses satisfaction at the fact that during the past year WHO has become more actively associated with the planning stages of national health programmes, particularly in Afghanistan, Burma and India. The community development approach in national planning is increasing in importance throughout the Region, the Report says. In India it has received greater emphasis in the Second Five-Year Plan than in the First. Forty per cent. of the 5,000 National Extension Service Blocks visualized for the Plan period will have integrated preventive and curative services to be provided by rural health units. WHO and UNICEF are assisting the Government in developing a comprehensive five-year programme for establishing these health unions.

Community Development

In Afghanistan a five-year community development programme has been proposed by the Government as part of a five-vear plan. The Government of Burma called a seminar to assess the results of its Payagyi community project with a view to expanding the programme. In Cylon the WHO-assisted Kalutara project continues to provide a base for practical training of rural health workers. A community development programme is taking shape in Indonesia. In Thailand WHO is participating in the UNESCO fundamental educational project at Ubol to which a U N community development expert has recently been assigned.

The report indicates that in all countries of the Region programmes are under way to train nursing personnel to meet the needs of expanding health services.

Health education of the public, the Report says, is gradually becoming an important part of public health plans in the Region but its impact on health services is still negligible owing to the shortage of trained personnel.

Environmental Sanitation

WHO environmental sanitation staff was made available to Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon and Nepal during the period under review. An important event was a seminar on sewage disposal organised by WHO in Ceylon. The Government of India called a meeting of sanitary engineers in all States of India to consider general problems in connection with the country's National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme.

The Report indicates satisfactory progress in programmes to control communicable diseases. National campaigns against malaria in each of the Member Countries continue to make headway giving protection to about 125 million people, representing roughly one half of the population at risk.

In regard to tuberculosis the hope is expressed that domiciliary chemotherapy may become the key to tuberculosis control in these countries, where the shortage of hospitals for isolation and treatment of infective cases must continue for years to come.

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Novel Features of Banihal Tunnel

The approaching ends of the two pilot headings of the new Banihal tunnel were linked into a through passage on September 9, as the last rock barrier separating them was dynamited. The charge was fired by Mr. H. P. Mathrani, Consulting Engineer (roads) and Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of Transport. Over a mile and a half long, the new tunnel, designed by Mr. Mathrani, is expected to be completed by the end of 1958. It would consist of two tubes, each sixteen and a half feet wide and eighteen feet high, allowing for one-way traffic.

The tunnel is the quickest constructed so far and it would rank amongst the first half a dozen road tunnels in the world. In its final form, it will also be one of the most modern in the sense that almost all the functions such as regulation of traffic and enumeration of vehicles passing would be automatic.

The first tube, now linked through, is expected to be thrown open to traffic by the end of this year. Mr. Nehru is expacted to perform the formal opening ceremony.

The tunnel would knock off 18 miles of the road distance between Srinagar and Jammu.

It has been designed for a normal traffic of 250 vehicles per hour in each direction and can accommodate 400 vehicles per hour in each direction during peak traffic periods.

The tunnel will have forced longitudinal ventilation system, in which fresh air will be blown into the tunnel in the direction of and behind the traffic moving in the tubes. This system of ventilation was found to be the most economical for the length of the tunnel, the height of rock over it, and the intensity of traffic expected. The velocity of the air will be limited to 10 ft. per second as greater velocities will be uncomfortable for pedestrians using the tunnel. The machinery for forcing the fresh air will consist of a ring of blowers round the entry portal.

For a short length near the portals, there will be blasts of air which will be uncomfortable for pedestrians. To get over this, separate short tunnels have been provided for the entry of pedestrians. These will join the main tunnel at about 300 ft. beyond the portals. Incidentally, these could be used in emergency in case the main portals are blocked for any reason.

It is proposed to have ceiling lights 80 ft. apart in the major part of the tunnel. Near the portals, the distance between the lights will be gradually reduced to 10 ft. so that the transition from relatively dark tunnel to bright outside in daytime may be gradual. The type of lights to be used has not yet been decided.

Fire stations, equipped with water hybrants, chemical fire extinguishers sandbins, telephones and alarm signals will be provided 400 ft. apart. Carbon monoxide measuring instruments will also be provided. All the fire stations, carbon monoxide measuring instruments, traffic signals and ventilating blowers will be connected to the control room that will be provided.

The carbon monoxide gauges will be connected with alarm bells which will ring when ratio of this gas exceeds the safe limit.

Electric traffic counters, anemometres for measuring the velocity and direction of the wind, sand and salt bins for defrosting the road surface are also proposed to be provided.

Dr. E. W. Meyer, West Graman Ambassador, visited the new Banihal tunnel on September 17 and distributed medals to the German and other engineers working on the project.

Longest Pre-stressed Bridge in Asia

The Rs. 50-lakh Sone bridge at Chopan, in the Mirzapur district, 13 miles from the Government Cement Factory at Churk, which will enable transport of material and machinery for the proposed Rihand

dam, is expected to be ready in October 1956. For some months, however, it will not be open to the public, except probably the Roadways' buses, as top priority will be given to the transport of material to the dam site, where concreting operations are scheduled to begin in March, 1957. The Sone bridge ar Churk is the longest pre-stressed concrete bridge in Asia.

The bridge is 3,300 feet long and 24 feet wide, with 22 spans of 150 feet each. Each of its pillars stands on two wells of 16 feet diameter going 70 to 80 feet below the river bed on rock foundations. The construction of the bridge was started on October 1, 1954. In constructing this bridge for the first time in India, huge ready-made concrete beams weighing as much as 22,000 maunds were moved on rails and then lowered on the piers. The transport of such heavy beams and their lowering on the pier was never attempted before in India and the firm, which is building the bridge, has been invited by the Ceylon Government to construct a bridge on this principle in that country.

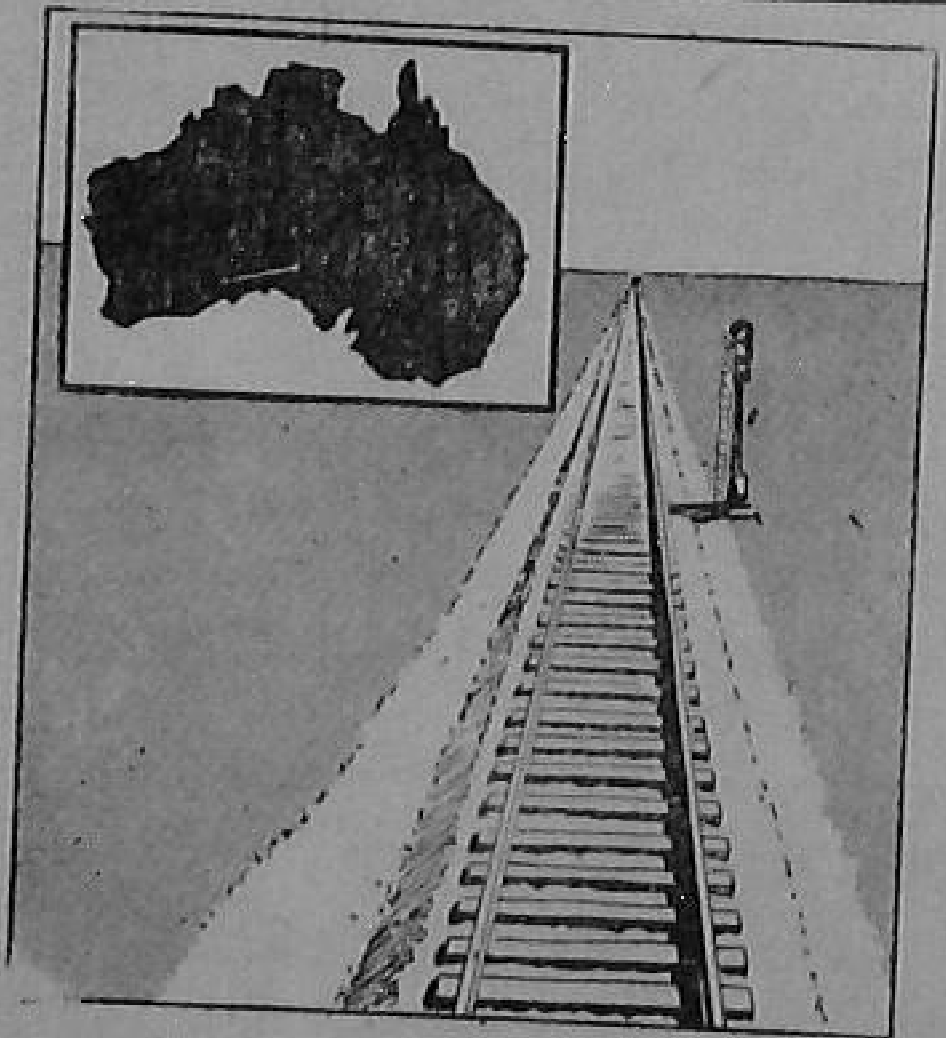
Toll Bridge For U. P.

U. P. Government have sought permission of the Union Government to levy a toll on persons and vehicles using the bridges on roads and rivers, built by the State and the Union Governments. The State Government propose to levy a small toll on the crossing of bridges, which number about 50, till the cost of these bridges is fully realised. The money so realised will be kept in a separate fund and will not be included in the general revenues. This fund will be used exclusively for construction of more bridges.

There are about thirty-five State bridges, on which it is proposed to levy the toll. The bridges, belonging to the Union Government, number about 10.

The Transport Minister, Mr. Vichitra Narain Sharma, said that tax on the use of the bridges was not new in the State. At one time, tax was levied on the use of even Malaviya Bridge at Varanasi. There was a regular levy on the pontoon and other temporary bridges erected by the PWD or the District Boards. The Government hoped to collect Rs. 35 lakhs in the fund, to be created from the levy of this toll tax.

A draft bill has already been approved by the State Cabinet.



The longest stretch of straight railroad track in the world runs across the Australian Nullarbor Desert. The track goes in a straight line for 328 miles without crossing a river or passing a single tree.

Master-Plan For Inland Waterways

A master plan for developing inland waterways to provide adequate, cheap transport in a developing economy has been drawn up by the Central Water and Power Commission. The Plan envisages the linking of Calcutta Port on the east with Cochin on the west via Cuttak and Madras by a network of canals connecting some of the major rivers of Orissa. Andhra and Madras, a continuous waterway from western India to northern and north-east India via Central India and a continuous waterway from the west coast to the east coast through the hinterlands of Bombay, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra. The Commission feels that no attention worthy of mention had so far been paid to the development of inland waterways whose potentialities are great.

The total navigable inland waterways in the country are at present estimated at roughly 5,760 miles as, compared with roughly 36,000 miles of railways.

State Transport Undertakings

The fifth conference of representatives of States road transport undertakings, held in Darjeeling on September 26 and 27, suggested that 25 per cent of the net profits of the undertakings be earmarked to provide amenities to passengers and staff. Other suggestions and recommendations of the conference were :- Technical and operational staff be given training under special schemes ; Standardisation of motor vehicles components be undertaken by the Indian Standards Institution ; An all-India courtesy week be celebrated in February every year ; Rewards be given to drivers with the object of reducing road accidents ; The Union Education Ministry be epproached to include instruction on safety-first-curriculum for school-going children ; Public co-operation be obtained and wherever necessary supervision be enforced to eliminate ticketless travelling in buses and steps be taken to minimise chances of revenue leakage.

States Motor Transport Enquiry

Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, the Union Transport Minister, said in Bombay on September 2 that an ad hoc committee was proposed to be set up shortly to inquire into the administration of motor transport in the States and to suggest means of improving it. Mr. Shastri said an investigation was proposed to be carried out by a team of officers to examine the development of rural roads in the second Plan by various authorities. It was also proposed to appoint a high-level committee shortly to examine the expansion of inland water transport in all its implications, he added.

Bangalore Transport Nationalised

The Mysore Lagislative Assembly on September 22 passed a bill to nationalise the Bangalore Transport Company on payment of compensation amounting to Rs. 15,50,000. The Finance Minister, Mr. H. Siddaveerappa announced that an autonomous corporation on the lines of the Bombay State Transport Corporation would be set up in Mysore to operate the transport services of the new State of Mysore. Every attempt was being made to bring the Corporation into being before the end of October. He refferred to the growing importance of Bangalore as an industrial centre and also as the capital of the new State of Mysore and underlined the urgency of providing the city with a cheap and efficient transport service.

Travancore-Cochin Enquiry

The Transport Enquiry Commission, consisting of only one member, namely Mr. K. P. Velu Pillay, former member of the Madras Railway Service Commission, appointed by the Travancore-Cochin Government in 1954, to go into the organisation and management of the State Transport Department, has emphasised that special efforts should be made to extend bus transport to the feeder routes connecting towns and villages of the State.

The Travancore-Cochin Government began nationalization of transport about 18 years ago, and have so far covered 600 miles in the State, while about 1800 miles are still operated by private agencies. The Commission in its 182-page report, placed on the table of the Lok Sabha on September 13, observed that it was idle to expect the private operator to develop transport in rural routes. The Government should, therefore, work out a phased programme of extensions and announce it for the information of the private operators and the public.

Transport Needs Survey

The Mysore State's Statistical Department had arranged 50 teachers to go from house to house in parts of Bangalore to collect data about the transport requirements of the city-dwellers. The survey is intended to cover 5,000 families to begin with, the statistics, thus, gathered serving as the basis for drawing conclusions for the entire city.

Delhi Road Transport Authority

Pubilc Accounts Committee's Critism

The working of the Delhi Road Transport Authority, which operates the bus services in the Capital has been criticised severly in the 20th report on the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament presented to Lok Sabha on September 7 by Mr. V. B. Gandhi, chairman of the committee.

The report said : "The structure of the Authority is not conducive to the highest efficiency. The undertaking has not devoted much attention to the economics of its working."

Low Earnings

Analysing the financial position of the Authority, the report said despite the comparatively higher bus fares chargrd by it, the causes for the low earnings were unremunerative routes, running of express services on flat rates, liberal maintenance of reserve staff, grant of too liberal concessions to the staff such as 23 paid festival holidays, running of buses free of charge, costing annually about Rs. 2 lakhs and free all-routes duty passes and family passes costing the Authority roughly Rs. 11 lakhs a year and leakage of revenue.

The report said the road transport service in Delhi organized on a monopoly basis should show as good profits as other nationalized transport services in certain States. In its opinion, the Authority "should be in first-class fettle not knowing what adversity means".

Extra Shift

The report is critical about the working of the workshop of the Authority. It says a bus which came to the workshop for repairs in November, 1954, was yet to be repaired. Out of a fleet of 400 buses, the average number stated to be off the road daily is about 60. As the workshop had now all spare parts, the committee hoped an all-out effort would be made to put back the buses on the road without any further loss of time by employing extra staff or working an extra shift, if necessary.

It is also critical of the compensation paid to the private bus operators when their vehicles were taken over by the Authority. "The interest of the public exchequer has been seriously neglected at every stage in this matter."

It says of the fleet of 180 vehicles taken over, 108 had to be auctioned in two lots as they were unserviceable—one lot soon after acquisition and another after roughly two years.

It has suggested a whole-time chairman for the Authority and the association of a representative of the travelling public in the advisory council.

Early History

Bus transport in the capital and its suburbs was formerly operated by the Gwalior and Northern India Transport Company Ltd. In May, 1948, the Central Government took over the business of the Company, following an agreement between the Government of India and the Company signed on April 23, 1948. Till March 31, 1950, the service was run departmentally by the Ministry of Transport and thereafter the Delhi Road Transport Authority was brought into being by an Act passed by Parliament. The DRTA consist of seven members—four officials and three non-officials. The official members include the Chief Commissioner of Delhi and three representatives of the Central Government including one from the Ministry of Finance. The non-official members include a representative of the Delhi Municipal Committee, one of the Delhi District Board and one nominated by the Central Government. Since 1950, the Chief Commissioner has been the Chairman of the Authority, which is run under the overall supervision of the Union Ministry of Transport. Mr. K. B. Lal is the General Manager of the Delhi Transport Service and Secretary of the Delhi Road Transport Authority.

Delhi Bus Dispute

Mr.Shah Nawaz Khan, Parliamentary secretary to the Minister for Transport, informed the

(Continued on next page)

Trolley Buses for Indian Cities

The Bombay Municipal Corporation on October 18 approved of a proposal to send Mr. M. G. Monani, General Manager, B. E.-S. T. Undertaking, to Japan to study the operation of trolley buses in Japanese cities and prepare a scheme on similar lines for Bombay.

The Union Ministry of Transport had asked the Undertaking to investigate the possibility of operating trolley buses and had indicated its willingness to sanction a grant of Rs. 5,000 for a survey of the project.

Mr. K. S. Dharia, Chairman of the B. E. S. T. Committee, stated that trolley buses would be ideally suited to Indian conditions.

Madras Governments' Disapproval

Mr. B. Parameswaran, Minister for Transport, told the Madras State Assembly on August 16 that the Government of India wanted the Madras Government to conduct a preliminary survey on the feasibility of introducing trolley buses in Madras City with a view to finding out if electricity was cheaper than diesel oil for running buses. The Madras Government considered the matter, and since the financial help proposed to be given by the Centre would be inadequate and the association of foreign experts from England would be a costly and prohibitive business, Government decided to drop the question of conducting the survey. The Government of India had been informed accordingly.

Ahmedabad Transport Plans

A Rs. 25-lakh scheme for constructing 800 tenements for the employees of the Ahmedabad Municipal Transport Service, and the plying of buses practically all round the clock on important routes are among the features of the expansion programme of the Corporation's transport service.

Dr. Ambhai Shukla, the newly-elected chairman of the Corporation's Transport Committee, said that the Corporation had also ordered a luxury bus equipped with a loud-speaker and microphone which will ply on fixed routes along the city's historical landmarks. A lady tourist guide would look after the comforts of the passengers in the luxury bus and explain the historical and cultural significance of the land-marks.

Dr. Shukla said that accommodation for passengers in the Corporation's buses had almost doubled in the last nine years. By the end of October, all buses plying on the city routes will have accommodation for 55 passengers in place of the existing 35.

For the convenience of those returning from the third shift in mills and late cinema shows, and also for those intending to go to the station early in the morning, more than 20 extra bus services had been introduced in busy areas.

Trolley Buses for Peking

Peking's Vice-Mayor said on August 8 that plans to replace trams with trackless trolley buses in Peking city and to extend tram lines into the outskirts were being worked out. Tram and bus lines that totaled 71.7 kilometres in 1949 have now been extended to over 403 kilometres and serve ten times the number of daily passengers compared with 1949. At present only buses run in the outskirts of Peking.

(Continued from previous page)

Lok Sabha on September 6 that the dispute between the Delhi Transport Authority and its employees' union over paid holiday wages to drivers and conductors would be referred to arbitration. He was replying to a question on the partial dislocation of bus services in the capital on Janmashtami Day — August 29.

Delhi Trams

The Parliamentary Secretary for Transport, Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan, in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 30 said that Government had decided to extend the period of life of terms operating in Delhi because the conditions of the rolling stock, overhead lines and track was such that the service could be satisfactorily operated for another three years without further investment of capital.

Model Rules for Rickshaw Pullers

Mr. Abid Ali, Deputy Minister for Labour, laid on the table of the Lok Sabha on September 6 a copy of the model rules circulated by the Union Government. According to these rules, a rickshaw-puller should be between 20 and 45 years of age, be not less than 5ft. 3 inches in height and be medically fit.

Mr. S. N. Das (Congress — Bihar) urged that the hand-pulled rickshaws should be abolished, but a member from U. P., Mrs. Shivrajvati Nehru, asked how rickshaw-pullers were to live if they lost their means of livelihood.

The Labour Minister, Mr. Khandubhai, Desai, said that the Union Government favoured gradual abolition. He hoped that the model rules would be adopted in the States as early as possible with such modifications as might be considered necessary.

1,25,000 Rickshaw Pullers

The Deputy Labour Minister had informed the Lok Sabha in August that about 1,25,000 persons were engaged in rickshaw pulling throughout the country and that the State Governments were not yet thinking of abolishing this form of manul labour.

Labour Ministers' Recommendations

The question of elimination of rickshaw pulling was considered in the Labour Ministers' conference, held in November, 1955, and it was recommended that (a) rickshaw pulling should be abolished gradually and were such abolition was not possible, suitable regulation governing the conditions of work, medical examinations, etc. of rickshaw pullers should be enforced on the lines of model regulations to be framed by the Central Government for the guidance of the State Governments and (b) pending total abolition no fresh license for rickshaws should be issued. The State Governments were requested to draw up a phased programme for the abolition of rickshaw pulling and to follow inter alia the following measures :—

(i) Prescribing the period over which rickshaws, hand-pulled and cycle-driven were expected to give satisfactory service and prohibit the use of such vehicles after the completion of their life period ; (ii) Stopping issue of fresh licenses for new vehicles and new rickshaw pullers; (iii) Allocating areas in which particular rickshaws could be plied and gradually reduce the area from year to year according to a phased programme.

Mr. Abid Ali,
Union Deputy Minister for Labour.

Moscow: Silent Capital Now

Since August, Moscow has the distinction of being the first "silent capital" of the Communist world. The ORUD, the organisation responsible for traffic control, had one million leaflets printed explaining the new traffic regulations and were distributing them into trains travelling to the capital. Moscow has borrowed much from Western systems of traffic and pedestrian control, but ORUD officials admit they could take a great deal more. Some of the ideas which they would like to introduce include "safety islands" in the middle of the road, traffic lights controlled by pedestrians and railings round pavements at corners to prevent people walking on to the road except at crossing points.

Foreign Aid For Rihand Dam

The United States has offered the Indian Government dollar aid of Rs. 3 crores for the purchase of the construction plant for U. P.'s Rihand Dam. The "foreign exchange" expenditure over plant and equipment for the Rihand Dam is expected to be Rs. 15 crores or a third of the total rest of the project. In the first Five Year Plan period Rs. 4 crores were spent over the Rs. 45 crore project. The bulk of the allocation—Rs. 30 crores—will be spent during the second Plan period and the cost during the first year of the Third Plan, when this biggest irrigation-cum-power project of the State is expected to be completed.

The 300-foot high dam will be built by an Indian firm of engineers, which constructed the Vaitarna Dam with a height of 225 feet in Bombay.

Special Construction Feature

A special feature of the construction plant will be the 226-ton cableways with a span of more than 3,000 feet—the biggest cableways used in the building of dams in any country in the world—for concrete-laying. For the construction of the cement-concrete dam 20,000 tons of steel and 4,50,000 tons of cement will be needed—including a daily supply of 600 tons of cement during the peak period of construction.

The Government cement factory at Churk, barely 50 miles away from the Dam site, will supply cement for the Dam.

Largest Man-made Lake in East

When the project is completed, it will create the largest man-made lake in the East—a reservoir covering an area of 180 square miles. The power part of the project is designed to generate 250,000 kilowatts of electricity. And its irrigation part is expected to bring an extra 14 lakhs acres in U. P. and an additional five lakh acres in Bihar under irrigation.

Electricity Board For U. P.

An Electricity Board in U. P. will be established in March, 1957 in accordance with the Central Act of 1948.

India's Biggest Multi-Purpose Project

According to the estimates that the Bhakra Control Board approved at its two-day meeting in September, the Bhakra-Nangal project will cost Rs. 174 crores. This is the first time that Bhakra estimates have been given a firm sanction. The last revision of Bhakra Nangal estimates was done in 1953. The country's biggest multi-purpose project was then expected to cost nearly Rs. 160 crores. The approved expenditure of Rs. 174 crores covers the cost of the 700-ft.-high Bhakra Dam with its extensive network of canals, five gigantic power houses on the left bank of the Sutlej and the two Nangal power houses. The estimates do not include the cost of the power plants which may be established on the right bank of the river at a later stage.

Of the amount sanctioned by the Board Rs. 108 crores has been spent so far.

Increase In Costs

The Deputy Minister for Irrigation and Power, Mr. Jaisukhlal Hathi, informed the Lok Sabha on September 11 that the Bhakra-Nangal project originally estimated to cost Rs. 75 crores in 1946, was now estimated to cost Rs. 173·54 crores, according to the revised estimates, which however, were not final. The increase in the revised estimates was due to the widening of the scope of the project and the additions of new items.

More Power for Rajasthan

About 37,500 k. w. of electricity will be available to Rajasthan by 1960 as the first instalment from the Chambal river project. Another 14,500 k.w. will be available on the completion of Pratap-Sagar dam project. The Chambal hydro-electrc project will benefit the new industrial undertakings at Kotah and Sawai Madhopur.

Heavy Electric Equipment Plant

A manufacturing programme for the proposed State-owned heavy electrical equipment plant, to be located in Bhopal, capital of the proposed enlarged State of Madhya Pradesh, drawn up by experts of the Government of India and of Associated Electrical Industries of the U. K.—technical consultants for the project—has been approved of by the Government. The factory will go into production by 1960 and will attain full capacity by 1967. The schedule of manufacture includes : A. C. and D. C. rotating machinery, rectifiers, transformers, switchgears, fraction and control gears industrial control gears, D.C. motor starters, capacitors and water well turbines.

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826 Miles Electric Traction in Second Plan

Alternate current is likely to be used in electrifying new railway lines in India. Experts of the Railway Ministry are believed to be in agreement with the recommendation made by a Franch team of engineers in favour of this system.

There are now in India 240 miles of electric traction, in Bombay and Madras. During the Second Plan period the mileage is to be more than trebled, the new target being 826 miles. The line between Rourkella and Durgapur alone will be 200 miles, and it is being given top priority in view of the requirements of the steel plants.

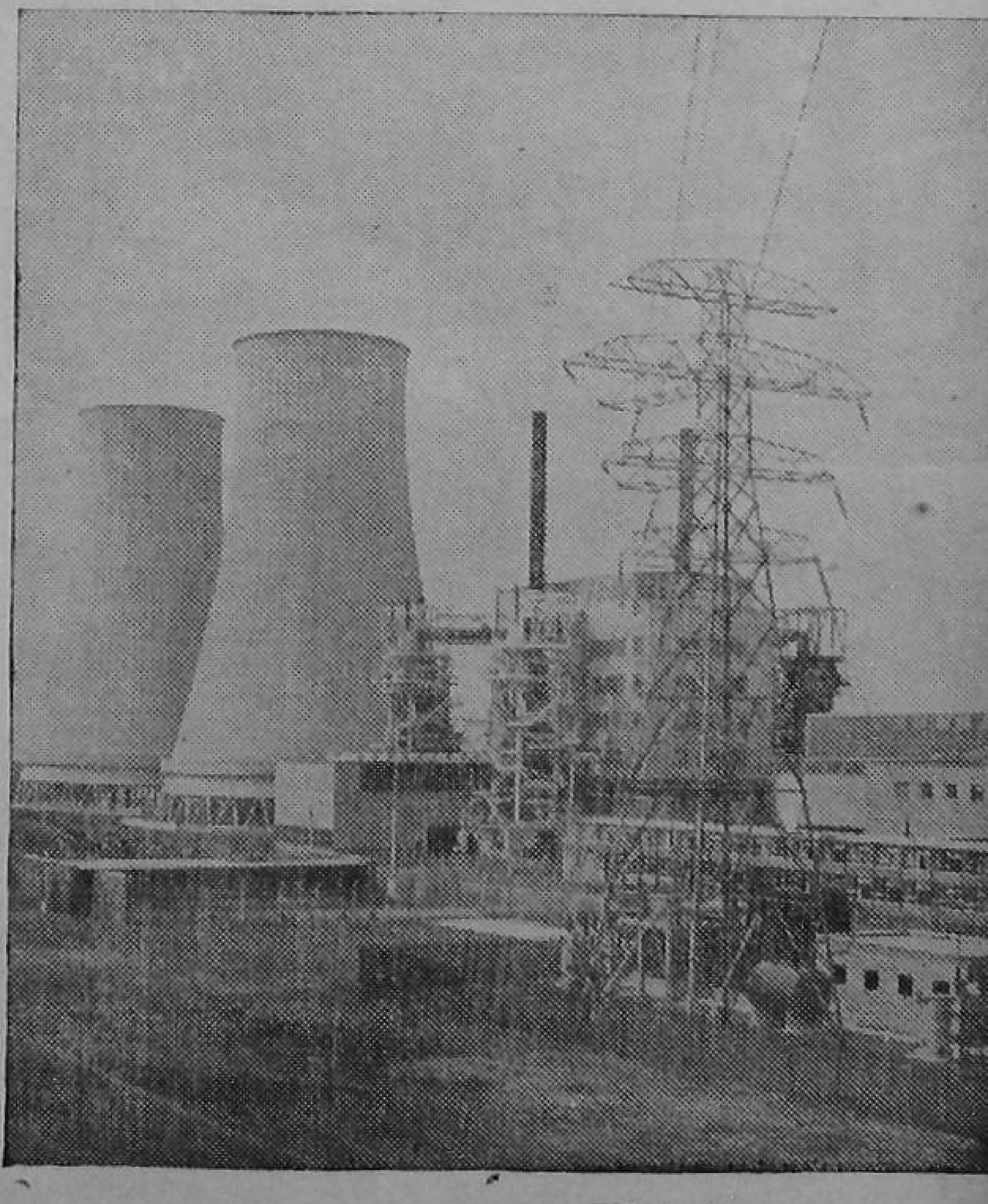
Alternating Current Cheaper

The team of five French engineers, that came to India in June this year, headed by Mr. M. Nouvion, Chief Engineer of the French National Railways, in its 300 page report, submitted to the Government of India in September, has stated that the A. C. system was far more economical than the D. C. system. The performance of a 63-ton A. C. locomotive would be similar to that of a 110-ton D. C. locomotive. There would be a big saving of copper and steel in case the A C. system was used. A. C. system was chosen in France at the end of world War II. The U. K. and some other countries have also now begun to use A. C. system in regard to electric traction.

World's First-Scale Atomic Power Unit

The nuclear-power station at Calder Hall, Cumberland, on the north-west coast of England, was switched into the National Grid by Queen Elizabeth on October 17. It is Britain's first atomic power station, and the first in the world to feed electricity in marketable quantities to a national network.

An expert forecast of Britain's total energy requirements and supplies suggests that by 1980 requirements will have risen 60 per cent., and that over 17 per cent. of supplies will then come from atomic energy. At any rate, it is certain that from 1965 onwards Britain will be relying heavily on atomic energy.



A View of Calder Hall

Four Years of Community Development Programme

The Community Development Programme entered fifth year of service on October 2, 1956. Launched on October 2, 1952, in about 55 projects, the Programme now covers more than one-fourth of India's 5½ lakh villages, and one out of every three villagers participates in its implementation and enjoys its benefits.

October 2, the birthday of the Father of the Nation, also happens to be the anniversary of India's Progamme of Community Development. On this day, this year, the programme stepped into the fifth year of its operation. This brief account attempts at a factual assessment of physical achievements of the programme during the past four years.

If the physical achievements and the people's contribution towards their realization are any guide, the Programme appears to have justified its description of a "People's Programme with Government's participation". In terms of money the people's contribution, offered in the shape of cash, kind and labour, has been Rs. 26.13 crores as against the Government's Rs. 46.02 crores in the total expenditure of Rs. 72.15 crores till March, 1956. The people, thus, have contributed nealy half of what the Government has spent.

Coverage Under The Programme

The 557 Community Development Blocks and the 603 National Extension Service Blocks, operating in the country, today cover 1,57,347 villages with a population of 88.8 million. In another 311 N. E. S. Blocks work is going to start today, October 2, 1956. These Blocks will cover about 31,000 villages with a population of about 20 million.

The Projects and the Development Blocks, in which the Programme was first initiated four years ago, have now completed their phase of intensive Development. During this period, 338 N. E. S. Blocks, where the achievements where impressive, where also converted into Community Development Blocks for intensive development. And, on October 2, another 64 N. E. S. Blocks were similarly turned into Community Development Blocks.

Physical Achievements

Since the prosperity of our rural areas is largely dependent on agriculture, the Programme, from the very beginning, gave it the first priority. Efforts have been made to educate the farmers in the use of improved agricultural implements, in the better methods of cultivation and to persuade them to adopt improved seeds and fertilizers, etc.

Till March this year, 91,59,000 mds. of fertilizers and 48,26,000 mds. of improved seeds were distributed; 12,82,000 demonstrations of better agricultural techniques were given, and more than 20 lakh acres of additional area brought under irrigation. According to random sample surveys, the average yield of principal crops in the Community Development areas now exceeds the overall average yield for the whole country by about 20% to 25%.

It is also estimated that the 11 lakh acres of land that have been reclaimed have added nearly 75 lakh mds. to the country's food production.

Besides, 1,57,000 acres of land have been planted with fruit trees and 3,88,000 acres brought under vegetable cultivation.

In the sphere of animal husbandry, till March, 2563 Key Village Centres had been opened to improve the breed of the cattle, and 12,824 pedigree animals had been supplied. A pilot project for the eradication of rinderpest was also taken up in the Community Development areas lying south of the river Krishna.

Nearly 2,45,000 birds of improved breed were also supplied to the villagers to encourage poultry-keeping. And, about 30 poultry demonstration centres and 30 poultry development blocks have been set up rural areas.

Development of inland fishery wealth of the country by stocking the waterspreads with fingerlings of improved fishes has been another important aspect of the Programme in appropriate localities.

Road Construction

Construction of roads has been an item for which the peoples' enthusiasm has been quite remarkable. Up to the end of March this year, 38,000 miles of *kachcha* and 6,029 miles of *pucca* roads were constructed and 22,000 miles of the existing roads were improved.

Welfare Activities

The development of medical and health services has also gained considerable momentum. Priority is being given to curative services. Already 674 Primary Health Centres and 578 Maternity and Child Welfare Centres have come into existence. Under the scheme for the provision of safe water supply, 1,07,000 wells have been either constructed or renovated. During the period, 64 lakh yards of drains have also been constructed. Progress in rural housing is indicated by the 29,000 new and 3,302 model houses constructed up to March, 1956. More than 49,000 houses have been improved by renovation.

Educational facilities in the villages have been provided by opening nearly 15,000 new schools and the conversion of 6,968 ordinary schools into basic type schools. During the period under review, 41,000 Social Education Centres were set up and 9,96,000 adults made literate. The number of Community recreation centres and libraries rose to 99,000 and that of Information Centres came up to 763. A significant achievement has been made in the starting of people's own organisations like the Youth Clubs, Mahila Samaj, Farmers' Unions, etc. which now number about 76,000.

Since the ultimate success of the Programme will depend upon the extent to which the people themselves are able to take over planning and execution of work for their own development, more than 11,540 *Panchayats* and other statutory bodies and 24,829 non-statutory bodies, like Village Councils, Vikash Mandals, etc. have been set up. And nearly 41,100 village-leaders have been trained. About 33,000 new co-opra-tive societies with 17 lakh new members have also come into being.

Work among women and children in the Community Development areas is also receiving due attention. Two pilot projects in this connection have already begun operating in Madhya Pradesh in Hoshangabad and Chikhli Blocks.

Trained Workers

The implementation of the Programme needs a band of workers who are infused with a new spirit, possess a new outlook and have received adequate training for their multifarious duties they are called upon to perform. The 48 special training Centres which have been set up to provide the administration with the requisite trained village level personnel, have trained up, up to the middle of this year, 14,446 Village Level Workers (Extension) and 6,314 (Basic) Workers. More than one thousand officers have been trained at the three Block Development Officers' Training Centres. Another 1,710 Social Education Organisers received training at nine training centres meant for them. The Kasturba Gram Sevika Institute at Indore, the Shivaji Educational Society at Amravati and the 22 Home Science Wings of the Extension Training Centres are grooming the future Gram Sevikas. The Ministry of Food & Agriculture, in co-opration with the Reserve Bank, has already trained 39 Extension Officers in Co-operation at its eight Centres, and the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Industry has provided training to 63 Extension Officers (Industries) at eight Centres. Periodical seminars and study tours are notable features of the training programme.

Employment Potential

The Programme, which is expected to employ about three lakh people by the end of the Second Five Year Plan, already employs about 84,000 persons of different categories.

Besides providing direct employment to 84,000 persons it is contributing indirectly to increased employment by expanding activity in various tertiary sectors. It is estimated that 4,01,000 people have been provided with part-time and 56,000 with full-time additional employment and, the benefits of the Community Development Programme extend to 52,53,000 rural families at present.

Nearly a threefold increase in the employment opportunities is contemplated through the encouragement of the cottage and small-scale industries in the Community Development areas during the Second Plan period. With this in view, 26 pilot projects have been started.

World-Wide Interest

The success of the Programme of Community Development has by now evoked interest in countries far and near. Visitors, who have gone round the various development blocks and have acclaimed the achievements of the Programme with full throated praise, include high dignitaries like the heads of foreign States. Nearly a dozen countries including Burma, Ceylon, Afghanistan, Egypt and Philippines have sent teams of officials to study how India's methods and experience in this field could be profitably utilised by them. A few officers from six Middle East countries are, in fact, undergoing training at the Block Development Officers' Training Centre at Hyderabad at present.

Indonesia and Iran have drawn upon the experience of the Chief and the Secretary of the Community Projects Administration by inviting them to advise on the introduction of a similar programme in those countries.

Second Plan Programme

An ambitious expansion of this Programme has been outlined under the Second Five Year Plan. By the termination of the Second Plan period in 1961, the entire country is expected to be covered with the National Extension Service, and not less than 40 per cent. of the N. E. S. blocks will be converted into Community Development Blocks. A sum of Rs. 200 crores have been allocated in the Second Plan for extending the Programme to the remotest corner of the country so that 70 million families living in Indian villages might take part in the working and rejoice in the benefits of this programme.

The recent elevation of the Community Projects Administration to a full-fledged Central Ministry, is indeed an indication of the importance which India's leaders attach to the Programme to attain the socialist pattern of society—the country's ultimate objective.

More Blocks Where People's Response Good

The Prime Minister told the Lok Sabha on September 8 that areas where the response of the people is likely to be the best are normally chosen for the location of the National Extension Service and community development blocks. Pandit Nehru said that backward areas would get their chance too. "But when we start a big movement of this kind and if we choose the worst possible areas for it, that is a bad way to start. The people do not respond and the block does not succeed. Therefore, those areas where the response is likely to be the best are chosen. It is unfortunate. But that is the way to proceed. Regional development is also an important thing, Therefore, we spread out these blocks in various states relatively evenly."

The Deputy Minister for Planning, Mr. S. N. Mishra, informed the Lok Sabha that 3,800 National Extension Service blocks would be set up during the Second Plan period. Of these 1,120 would be converted into community development blocks.

Tribute to Andhra State

The Prime Minister paid a tribute to Andhra State for the progress it had made in regard to community development. Replying to a question about the progress made by the various States regarding community development in the First Plan, Pandit Nehru said that he did not know whether it would be desirable to make invidious comparisons between States. "Andhra State was till recently rather behind, but it has caught up

so far since then that it is among the top-ranking States now".

Development Work Among Women

President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, in his address, inaugurating a seminar on 'development work among rural women' at Alipur, a village 11 miles from Delhi on September 2, said that so long as special attention was not paid to the development of living conditions and education of the rural people all our efforts for national reconstruction would remain incomplete and one-sided. He added : "If we do not want to see the islands of poverty and illiteracy in our country then we have to give more attention to our village brothers and sisters and march forward while keeping them with us in all development projects."

In India, he said, there are big cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi but three fourth of the population lives in villages. The villages and the men and women residing there are the real representatives of the nation. Not only because the village people are comparatively much greater in numbers than the urban population but also because of the backwardness of the rural areas it is very essential to pay special attention to the rural areas for the development programme.

N.E.F.A.'s Development Commissioner

Col. P. N. Luthra, Development Commissioner in the North East Frontier Agency, has been appointed as Special Officer. Frontier Areas, in the Ministry of External Affairs at New Delhi, in place of Mr. Sunil Kumar Roy, who has been posted as First Secretary in the Indian Embassy at Washington. Lt.-Col. G. S. Puri, Political Officer of Lohit Frontier Division, succeeds Col. Luihra as Development Commissioner for N.E.F.A.

Col. Luthra, as Development Commissioner, was mainly responsible for formulating and giving concrete shape to various development plans launched for the first time in the hitherto uncharted territories now comprising N.E.F.A.

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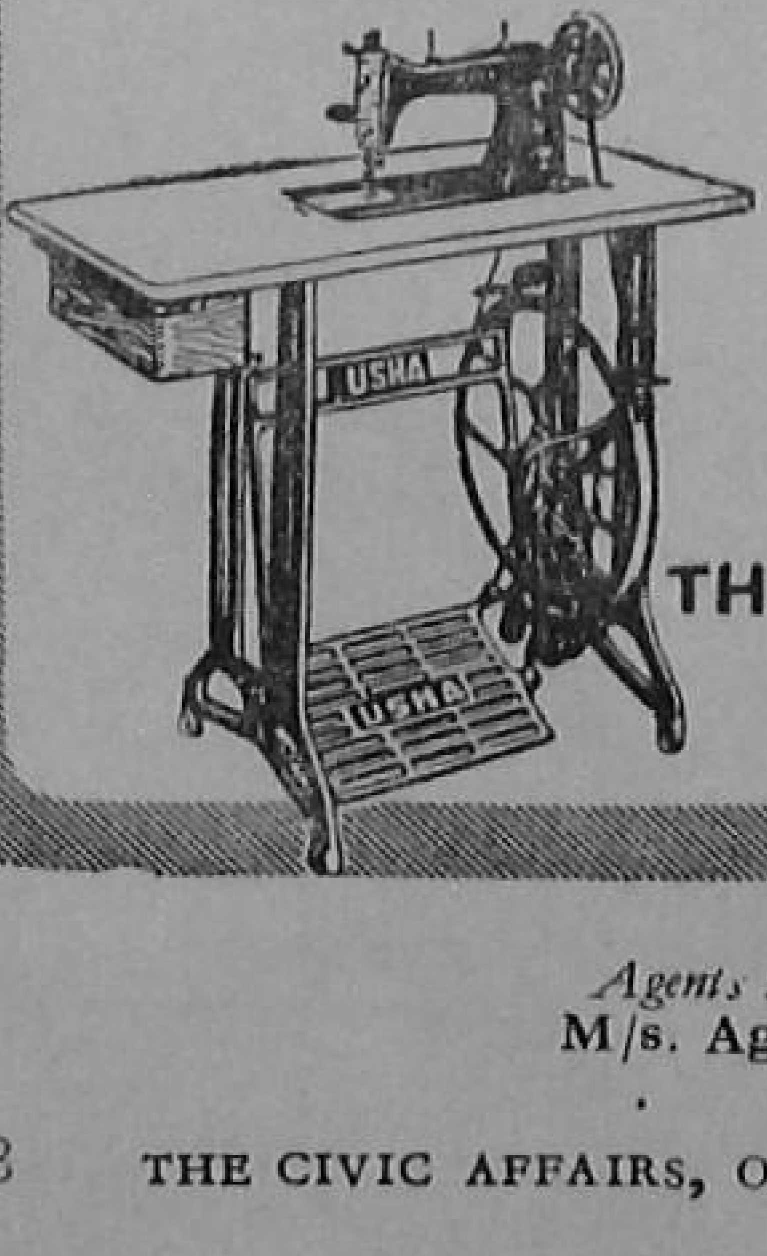

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MoreConsumer Goods For Countryside

By T. R. Gupta, General Manager, Jay Engineering Works Ltd.

Time is not far off when every rural household will have a sewing machine of its own. In the development of cottage and small-scale industries, on which so much emphasis is laid in the Second Five Year Plan, the sewing machine will play an important part.

The Jay Engineering Works in Calcutta has been playing a notable role in meeting the country's needs of sewing machines.

Since 1947 the sewing machine manufacturing industry has made steady progress and in 1954 the annual production of about 80,000 machines was attained. The Jay Engineering Works have made the biggest contribution in the development of this industry, and they account for 90 percent of the total Indian production. Already the Jay Engineering Works has begun producing about 13,000 machines monthly and within two years it is hoped to attain the production of 25,000 machines.

Japan with a population of eight crore uses 30,000 sewing machines every month, while India with a population of 35 crore is so far using only two-thirds of this. As prosperity in India's countryside increases, there is bound to be greater demand for sewing machines.

The sewing machine turned out by the Jay Engineering Works compares with the best in the market, and already it has found market in foreign countries.

People's Fan

Another notable product of the Jay Engineering Works is electric fan. The factory is producing 8,000 fans per month and it will soon go up to 10,000. Apart from the several attractive models produced in this factory, it is also marketing what may be called truly the people's fan. This sturdily built economical fan is priced only Rs. 65, and will meet the needs of the rural areas which are being steadily electrified under the Plan.

The production of consumer goods in numbers and of improved quality and at low price, will have an important role in the economy of the Second Five Year Plan and in improving the standard of living of the people. Sewing machines and electric fans are among the important consumer goods, which are expected to increase in demand steadily.

Dstrict Boards

Andhra Special Officers' Term

The Cabinet of the Andhra Government on September 10 decided to extend the term of the special officers of district boards in the State by a year. The Planning Minister, Mr. Kala Venkat Rao, said that the Government would introduce an amending Bill in the ensuing session of the State Assembly. Mr. Rao said that the future Government of Andhra Pradesh will have to review the entire position and decide upon policy in relation to the reconstitution of district boards in the State.

Hyderabad District Boards

The President has given his assent to the Hyderabad District Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1956. The Bill seeks to delete from the Hyderabad District Board Act, 1955, Section 139 (g) (i) which empowers district boards to levy a tax on persons travelling by railway or motor transport service to and from pilgrim resorts within the jurisdiction of the boards. Such a levy is *ultra vires* the State legislature as it is a terminal tax falling under Entry 89 of the Union List. The Bill also provides reconstitution of a district board and distribution of its assets and liabilities in the event of the limits of a revenue district being altered.

Panchayatraj in Punjab and PEPSU

One crore and thirty lakh villagers of Punjab and PEPSU do not now trek to the city courts for decisions on small matters. Instead, they seek verdict from their fellow villagers— whom adults among them elect for three years.

These elected judges, familiarly known as *Panchas* generally five in number—sit as a court (Panchayat) and hear the complaints. Somebody's cattle has strayed in the wrong field; somebody's manure pit has remained uncovered; somebody's share in the crop has been misappropriated; somebody's utensils have been stolen. These and similar other cases are decided on the spot— with the permission to appeal in the courts of the Director of Panchayats and Deputy Commissioner.

Though the legal role of the Panchayats is important; it is their contribution in the field of development, which is more significant. They are the agency through which the administration is taking its programme of reconstruction to villagers and seeking their co-operation and participation.

Building From Below

When the Second Five Year Plan was being formulated it was the net-work of Panchayats, about 11,000 of them in Punjab and Pepsu, which helped in assessing the needs of the people, village by village. Today the same Panchayats—one for every five to ten villages with a total population of 500 to 4,000—are implementing village plans. They are the ones building roads to connect villages with the highway, opening vocational and other schools for children and adults, arranging water supply and starting recreation centres for the evening get-together. And through Panchayats, the nation is pushing its programmes of irrigation, reclamation, consolidation, contour bunding and soil conservation, tree planting, cattle

आयुर्वेदीय रसायनशाला ज़िला बोर्ड कानपुर

की

उत्तम औषधियाँ

कानपुर ज़िला बोर्ड ने अपने रसायनशाला में सुयोग्य, दक्ष एवं अनुभवी वैद्यों की देख-रेख में उत्तम, विशुद्ध तथा उत्कृष्ट आयुर्वेदीय रस, रसायम, भस्म, गुग्गुल बटी, चूर्ण, घृत, तैल, आसवारिष्ट अर्क आदि समस्त औषधियाँ निर्मित कराकर जन-साधारण के हितार्थ उचित मूल्य में बिक्री करने का प्रबन्ध कर दिया है। अतः एक बार औषधियाँ खरीद कर अवश्य परीक्षा करें।

नोटः—वैद्यों एवं धर्मार्थ औषधियाँ वितरित करने वाली संस्थाओं को औषधियों के मूल्य में विशेष रियायत और सुविधा दी जाती है

जङ्गबहादुर सिंह

अध्यक्ष ज़िला बोर्ड, कानपुर

improvement and the development of subsidiary occupations like poultry and bee-keeping.

And suppose there is an information about a Government loan, a new seed, an improved implement or a better method of cultivation; it is disseminated through the Panchayats. Not only that. The Government itself uses these village common-wealths as a channel to distribute grants, fertilizers, seeds or such other things to assist the villagers.

Increased Production

On their part, the Panchayats' endeavour is to secure the maximum cultivation and to mobilise people's efforts and resources for a better and richer life. In Punjab, the Panchayats, have been empowered to call for a contribution of 48 hours a year for public purposes. But the need for "drafting persons" seldom arises because the villagers themselves volunteer for local works.

The call of a Panchayat is considered the community's demand. And so reliant have become villagers on this body that they turn to it at the time of their needs as they would to a friend.

As Old As Vedas

Panchayats were an integral part of India's rural life even in the Vedic Age. The word *Gramini*, referred in the Vedas, means the leader of the village. Valmik's *Ramayana* mentions *Janapadas* which were a kind of federation of village republics. The Buddhist *Jatakas* speak of Gram Sabhas. The *Shrutis* and *Simitris* also refer to the Panchayats. As a matter of fact, the Gram Sabhas continued to flourish till the British rule.

Efforts were made to revive them in 1882 and later in 1907 when the Commission on Decentralistion was set up. Its recommendation was: "Attempts should be made to constitute and develop village Panchayats for the administration of legal affairs." With the transfer of Local Self-Government to provinces under the Act 1919, several States passed the Panchayat Act. But the real development of the Panchayats started after Independence. In our Constitution itself, one of the Directive Principles is. "The State Governments shall take steps to organise village Panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of Self-Government."

Panchayat Fund

Punjab and PEPSU are among the pioneer States which have decentralized enough powers to make the Panchayats small Self-Government Units. The elected representatives administer their own problems—social, economic and judicial—with little outside interference. For the expenses on administration and development the Panchayats have been given 10 per cent of the land revenue realized from the village.

In addition, there is a chula (hearth) tax and the charges are: Rs. 3 from a landlord and a shopkeeper; Rs. 2 from a tenant and Re. 1 from a labourer. Widows and the unemployed are exempted.

To augment the Panchayat income, the Taxation Inquiry Commission has recommended powers to levy the general property tax, service tax etc.

The conference of the State Ministers of Local Self-Government held in Simla in June 1954 has suggested larger grants from the State Governments.

The purpose of giving more and more powers to Panchayats is to accelerate the process of "independence from below"—which has been initiated in Punjab, PEPSU and the rest of the country—renewing as it does villagers' faith in democratic traditions and opportunities to develop the social and economic life on their own.

Delhi Panchayats on U. P. Model

Two hundred and four gaon panchayats, an identical number of gaon sabhas and 22 circle panchayats are proposed to be formed in villages of Delhi State under the Delhi Rajya Panchayat Act, 1954, to

कानपुर जिले की गाँव पञ्चायतों की कार्य प्रगति

प्रातः स्मरणीय राष्ट्र-पिता महात्मा गान्धी के ग्रामीण स्वप्न को साकार बनाने वाली इस जिले की गाँव पञ्चायतों ने सार्वजनिक हित में अनेक कार्य किए हैं। उन्होंने ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में सार्वजनिक स्थानों के अभाव की पूर्ति पञ्चायत भवनों, राष्ट्र–पिता के नाम को अक्षुण्य बनाये रखने एवं उनके आदर्शों पर चलने की प्रेरणा देने हेतु गान्धी चबूतरों, ग्रामीण जनता की बौद्धिक, सांस्कृतिक उन्नति एवं नवीन विचारों के पोषक तत्वों की वृद्धि तथा मनोरंजन हेतु पुस्तकालय एवं रेडियो, यातायात की सुविधाओं हेतु कच्ची सड़कों का निर्माण एवं उनकी मरम्मत, द्वारा की है। दिनांक ३१–३–५६ तक किए गए मुख्य-मुख्य कार्यों का विवरण इस भाँति है :—

क्रमाङ्क	नाम कार्य	प्रगति
१.	पंचायत घर	१३२
२.	गान्धी चबूतरे	३७९
३.	व्यायामशाला	१४४
४.	अखाड़े	८६९
५.	रेडियो	१४५
६.	खेल के मैदान	१०२
७.	लालटेन	२,६३७
८.	पुस्तकालय	१०६
९.	औषधालय	२३
१०.	पुलियाँ	१५०
११.	पुरानी कच्ची सड़कों की मरम्मत	१,४३५ मील ४ फर्लांग
१२.	पुरानी कच्ची सड़कों का निर्माण	३६१ मील ४ फर्लांग

दलजीतसिंह राठौर

जिलाधीश, कानपुर

administer village affairs. The constitution of the new panchayats will be similar to that in U. P. Every village with a population of 500 will have gaon sabhas. The gaon panchayats will have one sarpanch and four to 10 members each according to the population of the village. Members of these panchayats will be elected by the gaon sabha. All adult residents of a particular village will be members of the sabha for that village. It will meet twice a year to discuss items of village development. The circle panchayats will be formed in selected villages. They are proposed to be vested with powers to control gaon panchayats. The gaon panchayats will have powers of taxation, revenue collection and grant of licences in respect of trade and will look after sanitation and education. It is also proposed to vest circle panchayats with judicial and revenue powers. The election to the proposed panchayats will be held by secret ballot shortly after the Chief Commissioners' approval of the recommendations. So far it has been the practice to hold elections by show of hands.

State Farmers' Welcome

The Delhi State farmers' two-day conference, which concluded on September 9, welcomed the Panchayat Act and pleaded that criminal powers should also be vested in the Panchayats and that the Delhi Panchayat Act 1956 should also be applied to areas to be included in the municipal limits and the areas which have been already included in the newly-constituted municipal committees.

Indias' First All-Women Panchayat

The first meeting of the nine-member all-women Panchayat of the village Vavveru in Nellore district, held on August 31, elected Shrimati Vevveti Vimaladevi as the Panchayat president. The president has ordered "no politics—panchayat administration has nothing to do with politics." She told the members: "Our efforts shall be to concentrate on health services, sanitation, artistic planning of the village and provision of social amenities." She warned her colleagues: "All eyes are now on Vavveru. If we fail the prestige of women is at stake. Women can be as good administrators as men and we must prove we are good administrators."

"We shall build a beautiful village—a model village for other panchayats to emulate," she added.

She requested the villagers to be prompt in payment of their dues to the panchayat.

New Ministry

A new Ministry, to be known as the Ministry of Community Development, was created by the Government of India on September 18. Mr. Surendra Kumar Dey, so far Community Projects Administrator, has been placed incharge of the new Ministry.

More Flats for M. P.s

Mr. Swaran Singh, Minister for Housing, informed the Lok Sabha in September that Rs. 82,48,500 had been spent on 404 new flats for members of Parliament in North and South Avenue, New Delhi. The expenditure incurred on two clubs for M. P.s in these areas was Rs. 1,78,000. The number of servants' quarters attached to these flats was 299.

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Socio-Economic Survey of Calcutta

According to the second sample survey conduted under a five-year scheme estimated to cost Rs. 3,76,000, by the Department of Economics and Statistics of Calcutta Uuiversity at the request of the Research Programmes Committee of the Planning Commission, sixty-six per cent, of the householes in Calcutta earn incomes up to a maximum of only Rs. 100 a month, ten per cent, of the active population are unemployed and only ten per cent. of those employed possess a bank account. Fourteen per cent of the earners and five percent of the sample population are stated to have insured their lives. Dr. J. P. Neogy, University Professor of Economics, giving a brief summary of the report on September 4, said that the second survey studied 4,923 households comprising 14,664 persons. A family consists of 5.4 persons on an average in Calcutta.

36 Percent Below Poverty Line

Only 2.2 per cent. of the city's population enjoy a monthly income of Rs. 750 or above and about 36 per cent. belonging to lower income groups have a per capita income of less than Rs. 30 per month which is regarded as living below the poverty line.

Of the total unemployed, seven percent. gave retrenchment as reasons for their unemployment. Unemployment among the educated, who formed 18 per cent. of the working population, is 35 per cent. On the other hand, of the illiterates, who form 25 per cent. of the working population, only 8.5 per cent. are unemployed.

Unemployment is generally higher among women than among men and about 14 per cent. of women seeking jobs fail to find employment.

Though Bengalees form 66.5 per cent. of the city's population, they constitute 77.5 per cent. of the unemployed. Joblessness is due to limited employment opportunities.

Housing Conditions

The Report lists housing conditions as "extremely deplorable." More than 42 per cent. of the households have an average of only 30 square feet of room space per head and 21 per cent. have between 30 and 80 square feet of room space. Single member households have on the average one-eighth of a room to live in. Thirty-five per cent. of the single-member households have no water tap, 70 per cent. no latrines and 74 per cent. no kitchen room.

Among households consisting of two more members, about 61 per cent. have no separate kitchen room, 50 per cent no bathroom, 28 percent. no water tap and six per cent. no latrine.

The occupational pattern shows the existence of a definite preference of educated classes for white collar jobs and only 17 per cent. and nine per cent. are to be found in trading occupations and subordinate technical jobs respectively.

Only 6.5 per cent. of the earners possess technical or professional qualifications. Twenty per cent. of these are lawyers, 12 per cent. engineers and 11 per cent. medical practitioners.

In Calcutta, a mother has on an average 3.79 children of whom 2.02 are boys and 1.77 girls.

Fifteen to 20 per cent. of the sample population were displaced persons.

Living Conditions of Youth

The Central Ministry of Education will shortly undertake a survey of the living conditions of youth in a few university centres. The questionnaire for a pilot survey is now under print.

Rs. 135 Lakhs for Development of Wild Life Sanctuaries and Parks in 1956-61

In this article on Wild Life, details of measures which have been adopted by the Government to preserve wild life and save rarer animals from extinction have been described.

To protect and preserve wild life, three main measures have been adopted in India.

A number of reserved forest have been declared sancturies in which shooting of all game or birds is either totally prohibited or greatly restricted.

Secondly, Wild Life Boards have been set up with the object of devising measures for preserving and studying such creatures and educating public opinion. These Boards are encouraged through official support.

Thirdly, steps are being taken to protect and promote the population of rarer animals. For instance, steps are in hand to develop an alternate home for the Gir lion.

Forestry being a State subject, the Government of India gives general guidance to and co-ordinates State measures for preservation of wild life; and has, for the purpose, set up the Indian Board of Wild Life in the Union Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

72 Sancturies and One National Park

Today there are 72 game sancturies or reserves, with an approximate area of 3,000 square miles, in 19 States of India, where animals and birds are afforded protection by law. Besides, there is a national park, covering 120 square miles, in Uttar Pradesh. There are also 20 zoological gardens in 12 States.

During the second Five-Year Plan, the number of sancturies and national parks will increase, as a provision of Rs. 135 lakhs has been made in the State and Central sectors of the Plan for their development and improvement and for the opening of new ones.

Wild Life Week

Wild Life Week was observed throughout India from October 1 to 7. The Rajpramukh of Mysore, who is Chairman of the Indian Board of Wild Life in a broadcast on October 1 referred to the most alarming rate at which game of all kinds has been diminishing in this country. During the last 60 or 70 years, certain species of wild life have actually been completely exterminated due to neglect. The Central Board for Preservation of Wild Life, constituted in 1952, works for preservation of this great national asset, and there are welcome signs that public interest has now been aroused and the ignorance, apathy and indifference in respect of the country's magnificent fauna are giving way to a sympathetic appreciation of its vital place in the life of the land.

An important recommendation of the Central Board is to constitute sancturies around the reservoirs connected with multi-purpose river valley projects. The Governments of Mysore, Hyderabad and Andhra have under consideration the constitution of a sanctuary around the Krishnarajsagar and the Tungabhadra reservoirs.

A draft model bill for the constitution of national parks is also being drawn up by the Government of India for the guidance of States.

To regulate game and afford protection to wild animals and birds, most States have enacted suitable legislation for their respective areas. Under such legislation, hunting is generally prohibited in sanctuaries and parks for most part of the year. Moreover,

the *Shikari* is allowed to bag game, big or small, only during a specified period of the year and with only specified weapons in such areas.

Healthier Surroundings for Wild Life

Recently, a novel step has been decided upon in rehabilitating the Indian lion. The Indian Board of Life has decided, on an experimental basis, to give a "second home" to the majestic lion — this being the Chakia Forest in Uttar Pradesh. A family consisting of a male and 2 or 3 female lions will be sent to the new habitat. Meanwhile, it has been decided to continue to ban shooting of lions in the Gir forests.

Another measure is to create buffer belts around sancturies as a precautionary measure against the spread of cattle-borne diseases. Under this scheme, village cattle will be allowed to graze in the buffer zone, but will not come in contact with wild animals.

A number of tanks are also being dug in arid forest areas, such as the Gir forest region, to ensure the supply of water throughout the year to wild animals and birds.

Functions of Wild Life Boards

With the avowed object of preserving fauna and preventing extinction of any species, the Indian Board of Wild Life is charged with the responsibility :

(i) for devising ways and means for preservation and control of wild life through co-ordinated legislative and practical measures with particular reference to seasonal and regional closures and declaration of certain species of animals as protected animals and prevention of indiscriminate killing ; and

(ii) for promoting public interest in wild life and need for its preservation in harmony with natural and human environment.

The Board also sponsors the setting up of national parks, sancturies and zoological gardens, advises, the Government on policy questions relating to the the export of living animals and wild life products, and prevents cruelty to birds and beasts.

State Boards of Wild Life, which have now been constituted in almost all States, have similar functions to discharge. Further, the State boards are responsible for intesifying legislation against poaching and illegal destruction of game birds and animals in protected areas.

In addition, there are about 20 game associations, which aim at educating public opinion on the value of wild life and inducing the *Shikari* and the owner of a gun to abandon unsporting practices.

In the drive to educate public opinion on this subject, the country will observe a Wild Life Week in the first week of October each year. During this week, the Central and State Boards will through various media emphasise that indiscriminate destruction of wild animals and birds, thereby disturbing the balance of Nature, would be detrimental to the well-being of both man and wild life, of crops and kine.

When a peccary squeals for help. . . every other peccary within hearing rallies to his assistance and the interloper is fortunate not to be torn to bits.

CIVIC REPORTS FROM STATES

Ajmer

Octroi Duty on Postal Articles Illegal

The District and Sessions Judge of Ajmer has held that the Executive Officer of Ajmer Municipal Committee was not competent to issue notices for the levy and collection of octroi duty on post parcels, and has set aside the conviction and fine imposed by the lower court on a business man under Rule 89 of the Municipal Code for refusing to show the contents of post parcels received some months ago. The petitioner's contention was that the Municipal Committee was not entitled to collect octroi on goods which had already entered the city limits. Secondly that the notice of demand was not served in accordance with law and that the Executive Officer had no authority to issue demand notices for the levy of octroi duty.

Ajmer's Claim Given Up

The Ajmer representatives are no longer pressing for the transfer of the capital of Rajasthan to Ajmer. After the integration of the latter State with the former, the capital question was decided against Ajmer in 1948 by a committee presided over by Mr. H. M. Patel, which toured Rajasthan and considered the claims of Jodhpur, Udaipur, Ajmer and Jaipur. Since then a large amount of money, both on Government and private account, has been spent in development of Jaipur as the capital of Rajasthan.

Andhra

Municipal Elections

Elections had been completed during June, 1956, in respect of 32 Municipal Councils in Andhra State. Elections could not be completed for the Chirala Municipal Council on account of stay orders of the High Court and it had to be placed under a Special Officer. Elections were not held for the Vijayawada and Guntur Municipal Councils as they had been superseded. .

Contributions For Water Supply Connections

The Andhra Government in a notification issued in August have advised the Municipal Councils not be accept contributions below Rs. 250 fot giving water supply connections to consumers. Under Section 132-B of the Madras District Municipalties Act 1920, as amended by the Madras District Municipalities (Andhra Amendment) Act 1956, Municipal Councils may accept contributions from the owner or occupier of a building, exclusively towards the capital cost of pipe supply of water. The intention of the above enactment is that Municipal Councils should be enabled to raise substantial sums for financing their Water Supply Schemes, the cost of which has gone up enormously during the last few years. If the contribution is paltry or does not bear any relation to the capital cost of pipe supply of water, it need not be accepted, the notification added.

Assam

Naga Trouble Subsiding

According to a Government Press Note, issued on September 29 Nagas, who had been forced by threats of the hostiles previously, were now feeling dissillusioned and disgusted with their activities. Villagers, who were driven to the jungles by the hostiles, had returned to their homes. The Army authorities had sent medical units and the Rehabilitation Conmmission was rushing supplies to the badly affected villages. Much ammunition is reported to have been recovered by the Army authorities in recent weeks which included several Japanese rifles, 12-bore guns, muzzle-loading guns, etc. Upto September 27, 1956, the captured arms and ammunition included 125 shot guns, 92 rifles, 55 bayonets, 39 spears, 17 grenades, five sten-guns, two 2-inch mortars and ammunition of all types nearly 5,000 in number. The hostiles had also surrendered in response to GOC's appeal for surrender of arms, 904 shot guns, 28 rifles of all types, two sten-guns and ammunition of all types exceeding 200.

The major activity of the hostiles had ceased; only stray attacks and sniping continued. This was the result of large-scale patrol activity undertaken by military personnel.

A group of Naga leaders met the Prime Minister and the Home Minister in New Delhi in September and had free and frank talks with them. They went back satisfied that the Government of India wanted to stand by its promise of consulting the wishes of the Naga people in any changes that may be considerered in the present set-up after peace and order have been restored in Naga Hills. They were assured by the Prime Minister that it was the Government of India's firm policy to let the Naga people develop according to their genius, to evolve their own leadership from among themselves, to run their own institutions according to their customs, and at the same time to advance their economy and their social conditions, to improve their communications, medical and educational facilities, through Community Projects, National Extension Service and the like. As the Prime Minister had declared: "I consider the Nagas independent because they are a part of independent, democratic and sovereign India."

Location of Refinery

The Government of India have appointed a 11-Member Committee to advise on the location of the refinery for refining the crude oil produced in the Assam oil fields. Mr. S. S. Vasist, Adviser, Ministry of Railways, is the Chairman of the Committee, which includes two foreign representatives. The probable production of crude oil from the Assam Oil Fields has been estimated at about 2 million tons per annum. The location of the refinery has to be decided taking into account the relative merits of location at the oil field itself or within close proximity of it and location at a centre of consumption or a place from which the centres of consumption could be fed with ease. The Committee has been asked be submit its report to the Government of India within two months.

Bihar

Cost of Kosi Project

Expenditure on the Kosi Project may go up to Rs. 5.3 crores. The project has been divided into four units. Over Rs. 4 crores have already been spent by the Government.

Bombay

Bombay City to be Bigger

The Bombay Municipal Corporation on September 20 adopted a resolution requesting the State Government to take immediate steps to merge into the municipal area of Greater Bombay certain villages of Thana district so as to enable the implementation of its "master plan" for the integrated development of the Bombay island.

Mr. A. K. Hafizka, floor leader of the Congress Party, moving the resolution said that in view of the likelihood of "further large influx of population" into the city, after the States reorganisation in November, it was necessary that the city proper, suburbs and outer areas should be developed by a single authority under the Corporation.

The resolution also suggested that the lands in the city under the jurisdiction of the State and Central Governments should be transferred to the Corporation so as to accelerate the progress of various development schemes in Greater Bombay and to facilitate the execution of a large housing programme.

The State Government was requested to undertake legislation to amalgamate the budgets of the city and the suburbs so thet the Corporation could implement its integrated development programme.

Civic Address For Lord Attlee

The Standing Committee of the Bombay Municipal Corporation on September 26 decided to present a civic address to Lord Attlee, during his forthcoming visit to Bombay. Accompanied by Lady Attlee, he is expected to arrive in Bombay on October 14.

Local Bodies Are Not A Political Forum

Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab, Governor of Bombay State, speaking at a receiption given to him by the Municipal Corporation of Ahmedabad on September 19, said that **Local Self-Government Institutions were not political bodies and as such they did not form a forum from which political opinions could be expressed.** Local Bodies, he added, were entrusted with the work of providing civic amenity to the citizens and, therefore, it was not proper on their part to resign and give up work in order to protest against any political decision. He particularly referred to the resignations of some corporators in protest against the formation of bigger Bombay State and said that one might hold an opinion contrary to Parliament's decision, but the question was with regard to the method of expression of opinion and protesting against such a decision.

He said that in Bombay State it had become a usual practice to resign from Local Bodies and posed the question as to what conclusion a foreigner would draw when he saw such a state of affairs. He, however, said that if a protest was at all necessary there were many other ways to voice it. As regards public opinion in democracy, he said, while expressing one's own opinion one should not obstruct others from expressing their views also.

Poona Corporation's Enterprise

Dr. H. K. Mahatab, Governor of Bombay, declaring open the tuberculosis infirmary built by the Poona Municipal Corporation on September 28, advised civic bodies **to pay more attention to health measure and cultural activities than politics.** He said it should be realised that politics played only a minor part in comparison to health measures and social activities, which have so far been totally neglected.

Mr. A. S. Naik, Municipal Commissioner, said that the infirmary had been built at a cost of Rs. 80,000 and would provide 32 beds for isolating advanced cases of tuberculosis. He said about ten years ago the death rate due to T. B. in Poona city was 317 to every one lakh of persons. However, due to vigorous steps and other measures taken by the Corporation, the death rate had been reduced to 83.

Ten Municipalities Cease To Function

Ten town municipalities in the Gujerat region have ceased to function on account of resignation of the majority of members of these bodies during August over the issue of a bigger bilingual State of Bombay. Ten out of 45 members of Baroda Municipal Council had also resigned.

Sholapur Resignations

Bombay Government have passed orders accepting the resignations of 12 Congress Councillors of Sholapur Municipality, who had resigned on the Samyukta Maharashtra issue, but as their resignations were not forwarded by the president, the Collector had issued orders disqualifying them from membership on the ground that the Councillors had not attended municipal meetings for more than four months. The Government held that the resignations tendered by the Councillors were proper and valid and annulled the Collector's order, considering it superfuluous in the circumstances.

No Bye-election To Ahmedabad Corporation

A bill to provide for the postponement of the bye-elections to fill casual vacancies in the office of Councillors of the Municipal Corporation of the City of Ahmedabad was published in the Bombay Government Gazette of September 20. The Governor of Bombay had already issued an Ordinance on September 5 making such a provision. Some Councillors of the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, including the Mayor, had resigned and in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 (1) of the Bombay Provincial Municipal Corporations Act, bye-elections to fill these casual vacancies are required to be held within three months of the occurrence of the vacancies. However, it was not considered desirable in the general interest of the public to hold bye-elections to the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation. The proposed legislation provides that no bye- election should be held

before April 30, 1957, that is the date on which the present term of the Corporation will expire. However, power is proposed to be taken to order bye-elections before that date subject to the provisions of proviso to section 15 (i).

Bye-elections to Other Local Bodies

A Bill seeking to amend the Bombay Local Authorities Administration Act, 1956, was published in the Bombay Government Gazette on September 21. Ordinarily, when an order under section 2 (1) of the Act is revoked or when it ceases to be in force on the expiry of the period specified in section 2(2a), bye-elections to fill the vacancies of councillors or members who had resigned, will have to be held. It is now proposed to provide that in cases where all or three-fourths or more of the total number of councillors or members of a local authority have resigned, or where the term of the local authority has expired, or is due to expire within four months of the revocation or the expiry of the order, general elections shall be held as it is considered undesirable to hold bye-elections in such cases. In all other cases bye-elections will be held.

Surat's Anti-Rat Campaign

"Two pice a live rate" is the offer of Suart Municipality to root out the rat menace in the city. With the offer has begun an intensive hunt, and long queues of boys with rat traps in hand is a familiar sight in the municipal office in the mornings.

According to a P. T. I. report of September 13, during the last month about 12,000 rats were caught and delivered to the municipal health authorities. The Health Officer said the response had been very good and youngsters seemed to take a lot of interest.

Delhi

Corporation Proposal Welcomed

Members representing various political parties, including independents, at the Delhi Municipal Committee's meeting on September 19, unanimously welcomed the proposal of the Government to set up a Corporation for Delhi which would also control the city's water and sullage, electricity and transport. By a resolution, the meeting declared that the establishment of such a Corporation would meet the oft-repeated demand of the citizens as well as of the DMC and would go a long way in improving the civic administration of the capital. The resolution said the tentative proposals, as announced by the Union Home Minister, were inadequate in certain respects and needed further improvement.

Multiplicity of Authorities

The meeting urged upon the Union Government to include the whole of New Delhi as well as the Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority and the Delhi Improvement Trust within the jurisdiction of the Corporation. This, the resolution added, was necessary in order to avoid multiplicity of civic authorities and eliminate the possibility of conflicts.

Mr. R. N. Agarwal, President of the Committee, said the Union Government's decision marked the fulfilment of a long-standing demand of the citizens for the integration of civic administration. He hoped the merging of the statutory bodies like the Delhi Road Transport Authority, the Delhi State Electricity Board and the Joint Water and Sewage Board in the proposed corporation would end the present confusion resulting from the multiplicity of authorities in the urban area. The Government's plan, he said, represented a compromise between the needs of integration and decentralisation.

Demand For A Democratic Set-up

The State Communist Party on September 6 welcomed the setting up of a Corporation but reiterated its demand for a democratic set-up at the administrative level. It said an elected council should be set up to administer subjects like health, education and labour with an elected Governor at the top. It demanded that Corporation should consist of 100 members and the D. D. P. A. should be under the Corporation.

N. D. M. C. Has Now Eight Members

The strength of the New Delhi Municipal Committee has been reduced to 8 from 20. Ten official and two non-official members have been dropped. The Committee was reconstituted on September 1 by the Chief Commissioner in consultation with the Union Home Ministry. Six new members have been appointed. They are: Mr. Maheshwar Dayal, Mr. Gulab Singh Sethi, Begum Qudsia Zaidi, Bhai Mohan Singh, Mr. S. K. Majumdar and Mr. Ratan Lal.

The Deputy Commissioner of Delhi, who is the President of the NDMC and Mr. S. K. Majumdar, Finance Secretary of the Delhi State and Finance Adviser of the Committee, are the two official members.

The eight members of the New Delhi Municipal Committee were sworn on September 6. The new Committee has been nominated for three years. Mr. Maheshwar Dayal and Raja Gulab Singh Sethi were unanimously elected Senior and Junior Vice-President, respectively.

The reduction in the number of members, it was pointed out, had nothing to do with the proposed reduction in the area of the NDMC under the future administrative set up for Delhi. In the former Committee the majority consisted of official members. It has now been decided that all those official members will act in future only in an advisory capacity except the Deputy Commissioner, who will continue to be the President, and Mr. S. K. Majumdar, Finance Secretary of the State Government, who will be the only other official member of the Committee.

N. D. M. C. Secretary

Mr. P. L. Sondhi, a Delhi Magistrate, has been appointed Secretary of the New Delhi Municipal Committee.

Retention of N. D. M. C. Urged

A deputation on behalf of business houses and shopping centres of New Delhi met the Home Minister on September 25, and urged retention of the New Delhi Municipal Committee outside the jurisdiction of the proposed Corporation. In a memorandum they said that with the merger of the N. D. M. C. with the D. M. C. there would be setback to the developments already made and further expansion would be handicapped. It was stated that the D. M. C. area with a population of 18 lakhs could constitute a sizable Corporation and there was no need to include N.D.M.C. area merely for the sake of having a big Corporation.

A meeting of representatives of traders, business men and property owners of various localities in New Delhi on September 21 passed a resolution demanding retention of the New Delhi Municipal Committee as a separate unit to administer the areas already under its jurisdiction and not to transfer any part of it to the proposed Corporation for Delhi. The resolution pointed out that the present standard of efficiency in the civic administration in New Delhi would receive a great setback by the amalgamation of the NDMC with the Delhi Municipal Committee in a Corporation. Sardar Pratap Singh, who presided, said the Union Home Minister had given them to understand that nothing had so far been decided and that he would like to hear the views of the people before arriving at a decision.

Representatives of the residents of New Delhi met Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, the Union Home Minister, on September 17 and stressed that the area covered by the New Delhi Municipality should not be included in the proposed Corporation for Delhi. They stressed that the efficient services in New Delhi would suffer a serious setback. Pandit Pant assured them that the question would be tackled in an impartial manner.

Regional Committee for Rural Areas

The special committee appointed by the MPs and MLAs from the rural areas of Delhi State and the members of the Delhi District Board to draft a memorandum to be submitted to the Union Home Minister, Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, regarding the powers and constitution of the proposed regional

committee within the Corporation for Delhi on September 24, unanimously decided that agriculture land, revenue irrigation and rural development panchayats should be the subjects of the regional committee. Chaudhary Hira Singh, Chairman, Delhi District Board, presided.

The special committee recommended that the chairman of the proposed regional committee should be elected from among the representatives of the rural areas.

It also suggested that the recommendations of the proposed regional committee should be acceptable to the Corporation except where major questions of policy are involved.

The Special Committee also recommended that no new taxes should be levied by the Corporation as the taxation powers have already been vested in Panchayats under the Delhi Panchayat Raj Act, 1954.

It also recommended that rural people should have adequate representation on the Advisory Council for the Head of the State and also on the Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority.

It was also suggested that the status of the head of the State should not be less than that of Lieutenant-Governor and that he should be a public man.

D. M. C. Wants More Powers

The Delhi Municipal Committee has decided to approach the State Government to get the Delhi Province Municipal Works Rules of 1938 amended so that the municipal engineer is made competent to sanction technically estimates up to Rs. 3 lakhs in respect of all municipal works. The present rules allow the municipal engineer to sanction estimates up to Rs. 10,000 in respect of original sanitary and electrical works and up to Rs. 30,000 in respect of other works. All estimates above these have to be approved by the Superintending Engineer, Delhi State. Similarly, under the existing rules, the Committee is competent to accord administrative approval for estimates up to Rs. 30,000 only. All estimates above this amount have to be sent to the State Government for administrative approval.

Jana Sangh Members of D. M. C.

Three prominent members of the Jana Sangh Party in the Delhi Municipal Committee have resigned from the party and have joined the National Democratic Front, formed recently by some party rebels. In their letters of resignation, they have alleged that the Jana Sangh leaders were bent upon running the party on Fascist lines. Jana Sangh was the next strongest party in the Committee after the Congress. But after the recent defections, including these three, the National Democratic Front claims to have become the largest Opposition group with total membership of nine in the Committee.

Sahadra Elections

Of the 30,328 votes polled in the civic elections in Sahadra in August, the Congress secured 10,878, the Jana Sangh 8,417 and the rest went to Independent candidates. Eight Independents and one Congress and one Jana Sangh candidates lost their deposits. The Committee will consist of 27 members. Mr. P. C. Badhwar was elected from the factory-owners' seat but the election to the labour seat was held up due to a stay order, issued by the Punjab High Court. The State Government will make three nominations to give representation to special interests and there will be two officials. The only woman candidate, who contested on the Congress ticket, was defeated.

New Secretary

Mr. K. N. Mehra, a Delhi magistrate, took over on September 3 as Secretary of Sahadra Municipal Committee from Mr. Amar Singh, a retired magistrate, who had held the post for one-and-a-half year.

Tenements for Squatters

The Union Rehabilitation Ministry has under consideration a plan for the construction of 5,500 new tenements for the rehabilitation of squatters in Delhi.

Rs. 208 Lak Rent Arrears

Over Rs. 461 lakhs are due to the Union Ministry of Rehabilitation as rent arrears for evacuee property occupied by displaced

persons, non-displaced persons and Government servants. Out of this, the rent arrears in Delhi alone amount to over Rs. 208 lakhs.

Indraprastha Marg

The road connecting Mathura Road with Ring Road near Hardinge Bridge will be named Indraprastha Marg, according to the decision of the New Delhi Municipal Committee taken on September 28 on a communication received from the Commissioner of Income Tax, New Delhi, to the effect that as the Central Revenue Building is located on this road, it should be named "Central Revenue Road".

Jammu & Kashmir

General Elections Next Year

The Kashmir Constituent Assembly on September 29 unanimously adopted a resolution urging the Government to take steps to prepare electoral rolls with a view to holding general elections as early as possible in 1957.

An amendment which sought to commit Government to hold elections by the end of May next was withdrawn after the Assembly was assured by the Premier, Bakshi Gulam Mohammed, that Government was anxious to hold the elections at the earliest possible date.

Bakshi Gulam Mohammed added that Government would direct its endeavours to hold elections simultaneously with the rest of India. The constitution, he said, would also be finalised by the end of this year in keeping with Government's promise.

The Constituent Assembly adjourned to meet on October 10 when the draft constitution would be presented to the House.

After the President's ruling, Mr. Hamdani and four others, including a PSP member, staged a walk out.

Opposition to Separate Constitution

The two-day "Anti-Separate Constitution Conference, convened by the Praja Parishad, was held in Jammu on September 23 and 24. Mr. Sham Lal, President of the Jammu City Praja Parishad, said the framing of a constitution for Kashmir was a "danger signal for the country." Pandit Premnath Dogra said the argument that since Kashmir had a Muslim majority it needed a seperate constitution revealed only "the communal mentality" of those who advanced it and was untenable. The Parished President continued: "It was a mistake on the part of the Government of India to have accepted the provision that the State's accession to India was subject to ascertaining the will of the people. Otherwise the Kashmir question had been solved on October 26, 1947, when the Maharaja had signed the instrument of accession with India".

Kutch

Municipality at Gandhidham

Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri told Mr. Gidwani is the Lok Sabha in September that the demand of the people of Gandhidham in Kutch, to creat a municipality for the township was under consideration of the Government.

Madhya Bharat

State Municipal Employees' Conference

Resolutions, pleading for the revision of pay-scales, enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act, training facilities and dearness allowance, were passed at a conference of Madhya Bharat Municipal Employees and Workers held in Ujjain in September under the presidentship of Mr. Ram Singh Verma, Vice-President of the I. N. T. U. C. Mr. Verma in his presidential address asked the Government to extend special concessions and facilities to municipal employees whose work was connected with essential public utility services. He said whenever the employees in such services threatened to strike the Government frustrated their attempts by taking shelter under the pretext of "no strike in essential public utility services."

Inaugurating the conference, Mr. V. V. David, State Minister for Labour, pleaded for the acceptance of the just demands of

employees in order to give them an incentive for work. "How far is it justified for the State Government or a local body to expect its employees to discharge their duties well when it denied them a living wage", he asked.

Local Self-Govt. Minister's Advice

Mr. Saubhagya Mal Jain, the State Local Self-Government Minister, who also addressed the conference, welcomed the proposal to form a union of municipal employees and workers on a State-levei. He said that the question of implementation of the Pay Committee's recommendations was being considered.

Deterioration in Local Bodies

The Minister complained of the deteriorating standards of work in the various municipalities in the State which he had recently inspected. He asked the employees not to forget their duties towards the tax-payers who wanted something in return in the form of welfare activities by a civic body. If all the taxes were to be spent on the employees' increased salaries, what justification would there be for local taxation, he asked.

Mr. Jain said that contrary to the recommendations of the Taxation Inquiry Commission, the State Government had permitted the realization of entertainment tax by civic bodies in the State to augment their sinking finances. Many of the civic bodies had no sound financial footing. In these circumstances to revise the pay-scales of municipal employees needed careful study. He disclosed that the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act had been made applicable to the conservancy staff of civic bodies throughout the State.

M. B. Employees' Union

The conference decided to form the Madhya Bharat Municipal Employees Union with headquarters at Ujjain.

The conference urged that the recommendations of the Pay-Committee report should also be made applicable to the municipal employees and its benefit given to them from October, 1955. It also urged the opening of two colleges, one each at Indore and Ujjain, to impart training to employees in local administration.

Criticizing the municipalities which forced their employees to work 12 hours a day, the conference demanded strict enforcement of the provisions of the Minium Wages Act. It also suggested that Government rules in respect of leave, pension and medical facilities should be made applicable to municipal employees.

Bhilai Township

Mr. S. N. Mehta, General Manager of the Bhilai Steel Project, said on September 27 that preparatory work on the project had been vigorously started. An electric sub-station at Bhilai hed started working while a thermal station at Korba was under construction. A hostel for employees, 32 bungalows, 300 hours. two labour camrps, accommodating 10,000 labourers, had been constructed and another 700 houses were under construction.

A Rs. 1-crore water supply scheme had been prepared for the township. The Maroda reservoir was being remodelled for cooling the warm water of the factory. The diversion of the Tendula Canal had also been completed, and a four-sq.-mile reservoir was under construction.

The General Manager said a mastar plan had been prepared for the Bhilai township (Raigarh district). So far 17,850 acres of land had been acquired for the township and the factory.

Bhilsa Becomes Vidisha

The Government of Madhya Bharat, in consultation with the Union Government, has decided to change the name of 'Bhilsa' near Sanchi, to "Vidisha" from November 1, "Vidisha" had been a great centre of culture and trade for centuries and was a famous and prosperous city of ancient India. It was also claimed that King Ashoka's consort came from "Vidisha". It comprised the area between Sanchi and Besnagar, including Bhilsa.

Madras

Reorganisation of Local Bodies

The Government of Madras has adopted a system of consultation which enables it to take decisions on policy matters which are assured of a favourable reception. The leaders of various political parties in the State Legislatures are being consulted even while the policy itself is formulated. The result is that the ultimate decision of the Government finds a safe passage through the Legislature. The architect of this process, Mr. C. Subramaniam, the Finance Minister, tried it initially in the controversial sphere of education with a large measure of success. The Government are now applying the same procedure to the vexed question of the future of local bodies in the State.

The future pattern of local bodies has for long been a thorny problem for the Government and successive ministries have deliberately left this question unsolved. At least two committees were appointed to study the working of the local administration and make such recommendation as they thought fit to model them in such a way as to make them play an effective role in the Government's nation building efforts. Unfortunately, the reports of the committees were "pigeon-hold". During his regime, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari attempted to salvage these reports and bring into existence smaller and less unwieldy institutions like taluka boards in place of district boards. His efforts were nipped in the bud by Congressmen themselves and the Tamilnad Congress Committee itself led the opposition to the Rajaji scheme. The opposition appeared to be blind as none of the opponents of the scheme was known to have discussed its merits or demerits in denouncing the proposal.

The Kamaraj Government has decided to reopen the issue. After scrutinising the "pigeon-holed" documents, it has published its tentative conclusions in a White Paper and would later ask for a legislature committee to help it determine the future pattern of local bodies.

Orissa

New Governor

Mr. Bhim Sen Sachar was sworn in as Governor of Orissa on September 12.

P. E. P. S. U

Grants To Local Bodies

Twenty-seven municipal committees in P. E. P. S. U. have been granted subsidies ranging from Rs.500 to Rs. 50,000 for the execution of their development works. The total amount granted as subsidies and loans to 34 municipal committees comes to about Rs. 6,20,000.

Pondicherry

Pondicherry Mayor Suspended

The Mayor of Pondicherry, Mr. Jaseph Latur, has been suspended by the Administration pending a judicial inquiry into allegations against him of "abuse of powers" and "irregular practices."

A press note issued on September 17 said that the Administration had received several complaints from citizens alleging that the Mayor of Pondicherry and certain municipal officials had been "abusing their powers to the detriment of public interest and had resorted to irregular practices."

Preliminary inquiries had brought to light evidence which obliged the Government to place the matter before a competent court of law. A thorough inquiry into the complaints and allegations in a judicial court was not only essential in the public interest, but also in the interests of good administration it, added.

The Government had, therefore, decided to place the Mayor under suspension for a period of three months or till the completion of the inquiry, whichever is earlier.

Meanwhile, Mr. Cassime, the first Assistant Mayor, has been appointed to take over the functions of Mayor in accordance with the provisions of the municipal administration.

Punjab

Municipal Committee's Suppression Challenged

A notification, dated August 30, of the Punjab Government superseding the Hissar Municipal Committee, was challenged on September 14 in the Punjab High Court before a division bench, consisting of the Chief Justice, Mr. A. N. Bhandari, and Mr. Justice Khosla, who admitted a writ petition by nine Municipal Commissioners of the superseded Committee and issued notice to the Punjab Government for an early date. On behalf of the petitioners it was submitted that Mr. Balwantrai Tayal, now Deputy Minister of the Punjab, was some time ago President of the Hissar Municipal Committee. Nine members of the Committee at that time submitted a requisition for a meeting of the Committee to consider a no-confidence motion against Mr. Tayal, who, however, resigned from the presidentship. One of the petitioners was then elected president. It was alleged that the notification ordering the supersession was malafide and amounted to gross abuse of power. It was further alleged that the Deputy Minister in charge of Local Self-Government, Mr. Ram Kishan, had gone abroad for a few weeks and his portfolio was entrusted to Mr. Balwantrai Tayal. It was under the latter's orders that the notification superseding the Committee was published. It was prayed that the notification be quashed and the Municipal Committee be restored.

Mr. I. K. Suri, a magistrate, has been appointed as the Town Administrator. The services of Mr. Harbans Rai Parti, the Executive Officer, have also been dispensed with.

Uproar in Ludhiana Committee

The police was called in on September 12 night to restore order at a meeting of Ludhiana Municipal Committee after a member refused to leave the House when ordered to do so by the President, Mr. Lal Chand Sondhi. The trouble started when a resolution to reinstate two officials of the committee, who had been suspended on charges of corruption, was moved by a member. This was strongly opposed on the ground that item was not on the agenda, and there was an uproar when the President allowed it to be moved.

Mr. Parkash Chand Thapar was ordered to leave the House, but he refused to do so. The President called a municipal peon to take Mr. Thapar out, and when he could not do so, the police were summoned, but they were not prepared to intervene. The President then adjourned the meeting for half an hour. When the meeting was resumed, there were heated exchanges again.

Simla Municipal Committee

The newly elected President of Simla Municipal Committee, Pandit Hari Ram, on September 6 said the committee, which took over in 1953 with a deficit of Rs. 5.5 lakhs, was now able to balance the budget without imposing fresh taxes. Besides 80 miles of roads which the Committee was maintaining, it planned to construct new roads. The Committee was spending about Rs.7 lakhs every year on sanitation. Besides, it had a slum clearance programme for which it had asked for a loan of Rs.80,000 from the State Government.

Decline of Simla

With the impending reduction of Himachal Pradesh from a State to a Union territory and the departure of nearly all Punjab Government offices that still remain there, the decline and fall of Simla, once the seat of three Governments, including that of Burma, is about to be complete. Simla will now be left with, apart from a few Central camp offices, the office of the Accountant-General and the secretariat of the Administrator of Himachal Pradesh.

Disorderly Scenes in Amritsar Committee

Disorderly scenes marked the proceedings of a general meeting of the Amritsar Municipal Committee on August 31, Mr. K. R. Vir (Harijan), Junior Vice-President, presiding. More than one member stood up simultaneously to address the meeting several times and the disorder culminated in the adjournment of the

House by the chair as a protest against certain alleged objectionable remarks made by Dr. Raghbir Singh against the chair.

Sanitation Week in Chandigarh

Mr. Mool Chand Jain, P. W. D. Minister, Punjab, inaugurated the education and sanitation week in Chandigarh on September 26. **Mr. Ram Kishen, Deputy Minister, who had recently visited the communist countries, said that in those countries there was no food adulteration and the people were so civic minded that they observe rules and regulations in true spirit.**

Rajasthan

State Government's Order Set Aside

A bench, consisting of the Chief Justice, Mr. Wanchoo, and Mr. Justice Bapana, of the Rajasthan High Court on September 5 set aside State Government order removing Mr. Mohan Swaroop, Chairman of the Deeg Municipality in Bharatpur district. Mr. Mohan Swaroop was removed from the chairmanship on December 31, 1955 for non-compliance with Government orders and not answering charges levelled against him. Counsel for the applicant contended that no charge-sheet was supplied to him and he was merely called by the Minister concerned who orally communicated some allegations and demanded an explanation to which Mohan Swaroop refused to reply. Their lordships observed that the minimum procedure to be followed for removel should be that proper charges should be framed, a copy of them should be supplied to the person concerned, reasonable time for reply should be given and thereafter the Government should decide whether a personal hearing was to be given or not. Only then a chairman or vice-chairman holding such a responsible post should be removed from office.

New Chairman of Fatehpur Board

Mr. Ram Prasad Khedwal (Cong.) was elected chairman of the Fatehpur Municipal Board at the first meeting of the board after the recent elections.

Sikar Board Member Forcibly Expelled

Mr. L. R. Panwar, a Congress member of the Sikar Municipal Board, was forcibly removed from the meeting of the Board on August 31 for his refusal to obey the chairman's quit orders.

Mr. Panwar was reported to have used certain insulting words towards the chairman during discussion on a proposal to exempt footwear samples from octroi duty. Mr. M. K. Misra, the chairman, asked Mr. Panwar to withdraw from the meeting. When he refused to do so on repeated requests peons were sent for to remove him bodily.

Travancore-Cochin

President's Rule for Another Six Months

The Lok Sabha on September 1 passed the Government resolution approving the continuance of President's rule in Travancore-Cochin for a further period of six months from October 24.

The Union Home Minister said the House could not expect the Adviser to perform miracles in five months, "but, on the whole, from his report, it will be fair to infer that he has done his job well".

Uttar Pradesh

Local Bodies Dispute

Minister for Local Self-Government, Mr. Ali Zaheer, on October 6 arbitrated in the dispute regarding licensing of rickshaws between Lucknow Municipal Board and Distt. Board. The Municipal Board has been objecting to the rickshaws, licenced by the District Board, plying on the Municipal roads. The matter went up to the High Court, which ruled that the District Board had no authority to issue licences for rickshows plying in the city. The Minister, after hearing the parties concerned, announced that the Government would go into the whole question and give their decision shortly.

L.S.G. Chief Engineer's Foreign Visit

A number of questions were asked in the State Vidhan Sabha on October 11 regarding the study tour of the Chief Engineer of Local Self-Government Engineering Department under a Rockfeller Foundation grant to study modern water-works and drainage schemes in the U.S.A., U.K. and Europe. The Local Self-Government Minister Mr. Ali Zaheer, informed the House that the Chief Engineer's tour would last three months from August 1. The Government would not bear any expenses, except travelling expenses incurred in connection with the two specific tasks entrusted to him by the Government themselves. These were the inspection of water and drainage boards and also water meter factory at Basle in Switzerland. Government, Mr. Ali Zaheer said, had gladly given permission to the Chief Engineer to avail of the Rockfeller Foundation grant, as it was in the interest of the State that its officers should be conversant with the latest knowledge on their subjects. No officiating appointment had been made in the absence of the Chief Engineer abroad, as routine matters were being dealt with by the subordinate officers and policy matters were being referred to the Chief Engineer through correspondence, as the Chief Engineer was not on leave but on duty.

Drive Against Unlicensed Cycles

A vigorous drive to check unlicensed cycles in Lucknow city has been launched by the municipal authorities. Last year, the drive brought in a sum of about Rs. 1,25,000 to the municipal coffers, more than a lakh over the previous year, when only about Rs. 25,000 was realised from this source. About 40,000 cycles were registered during the drive last year, as compared to the previous year's when only 6,000 were licensed.

Nainital Board's Progress

Mr. M. L. Sah, President of the Naini Tal Municipal Board, has claimed an all-round improvement in the town in the annual administration report of the Board for 1955-56. The Board had taken steps to beautify and modernise the town and it was intended to make Naini Tal more attractive. To improve the town's sanitation, the Board had taken a loan of Rs. 2,16,750. It had also taken in hand the Water-Supply Reorganisation Scheme. Electricity Reorganisation Scheme was also in hand.

For the promotion of tourism in the Hills the President has made a number of suggestions, including cheap communication and transport facilities. For improving transport system within the city it is requested that the construction of funicular railway or rope-way system be taken up by the Government.

There is also a proposal to construct a miniature zoo in Naini Tal. Naini Tal Municipality will maintain the zoo, while the State Government will give it a suitable grant. The scheme is likely to cost Rs. 5 lakhs.

No Confidence Move Succeeds

A motion of no-confidence against Rani Chandravati, (Congress) President of the Municipal Board, Pilibhit, was passed on September 22 by 17 votes to 2. The supporters of the motion had levelled charges of favouritism and negligence against the President. Rani Chandravati was the only woman president of a municipality in the State.

No Confidence Motion Held Illegal

The Presiding Officer, Mr. O. B. Lal, Civil Judge, Dehra Dun, upheld the point of order moved by Mr. R. K. Verma, President of the Mussoorie Municipal Board and two other members jointly, in the Board's special meeting on September 16 and ruled out of order a motion of no-confidence moved against the Board President, by 9 out of 16 members. The point of order said that substance of no-confidence motion was not sent by the District Magistrate along with intimation of date, time and place of meeting which did not enable them to discuss the motion and prepare replies to charges levelled against the President. The presiding officer held that the notice issued by the District Magistrate was invalid as the substance of motion was neither made known to members nor even published in any newspaper.

Nine members of the Board, who had given notice of the no-confidence motion, had made several charges aginst the President in a separate note submitted to the District Magistrate. The note alleged "callous handling by the President of the most ordinary matters for the improvement of the hill station", and that the administration of the Board was at its lowest ebb.

Writ Petition Against Removal

Mr. Justice Mubashir Husain Kidwai of the Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court on September 6 admitted the writ petition filed by Mr. Hamid Ali, President of the Municipal Board, Pehani, praying that the meeting in which a no-confidence resolution was passed against him on June 23, be declared illegal and the U. P. Government be restrained from removing him from his office.

More Taxes in Almora

Almora Municipal Board, which was superseded by the State Government in May for one year for its failure to impose water tax and non-fulfilment of its other financial obligations, is now likely to impose water tax in the town. The toll tax may also be increased.

Moradabad President

Mr. Haji Mohammed Ishaw (Congress) was elected President of the Moradabad Municipal Board in a triangular contest, defeating the Independent and Jana Sangh candidates.

No Confidence Move Defeated

The second motion of no-confidence tabled by the Congress Party in the Gorakhpur Municipal Board against its President, Mr. I. S. Verma (Hindu Mahasabha), was defeated on September 1. The Congress Party also lost both the Senior and Junior Vice-Presidentships and the annual report which had been held up so long was also approved.

Agra Municipal Board to be Bigger

The Central Government have agreed to transfer pocket areas of the Agra Cantonment Board to the Municipal Board.

Compulsory and Free Primary Education

The State Government have sanctioned interim grants amounting to Rs. 4,12,330 to district boards and municipal boards to enable them to meet the loss in fee income due to abolition of tution fees in class I to III. Primary education in classes I to III in schools run by local bodies has been made free since July this year.

Vindhya Pradesh

No Confidence Move Dropped

A four-man deputation, consisting of Capt. Awadhesh Pratap Singh, M. P., Mr. Ram Sahai Tiwari, M. P. Mr. Ram Sajivan Gautam, MLA, and Mr. Pearey Lal, MLA, on behalf of 26 out of 45 Congress legislators in Vindhya Pradesh, who had sought the Congress Working Committee's permission to move a vote of no-confidence against the Chief Minister, Mr. S. N. Shukla, met the Congress President, Mr. U. N. Dhebar in New Delhi on September 13. The dissident Congressmen had earlier submitted a representation to the Working Committee giving details of the complaints they had against the Congress Ministry in the State. Mr. Dhebar told the deputationists that the dissident partymen should have observed party discipline by putting their case before the Working Committee before asking for any permission to move a no-confidence motion. Consequently the deputationists withdrew the representation.

West Bengal

New Type of Public Health Organisation

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Union Health Minister, on September 28 inaugurated the Indian Public Health Association in Calcutta, which for the first time in India provides an integrated and all-embracing organisation in public health. According to Dr. Amarnath Mookerjee, Deputy Mayor of Calcutta and Chirman of the Reception Committee of the Association, the concept of public health had altered dramatically in the post-war years in that it had moved very far from the connotation of pure sanita-

tion and environmental hygiene to a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being of the people and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. The Association had, therefore, brought within its scope representative membership from all specialised fields in public health, not excluding social workers. A majority of its members would be non-medical personnel whose active participation was essential in promoting the health of the people.

The activities of the Association will include efforts to ensure that medical undergraduate courses in the country would be so revised to lay special emphasis on preventive and social medicine. A new type of doctor must be evolved to meet the growing demands of the nation, Dr. Mookerjee said.

Inaugurating the Association, Rajkumari Amarit Kaur urged a close integration of the medical and public health machinery at all levels so that the work in the field of health does not suffer from "compartmentalism and exclusiveness". She said that the purpose of the health schemes in the First Five-Year Plan was predominantly preventive. Most of the activities were now being carried out by separate groups of workers. Their integration and canalisation through common agencies at the district and rural centres would have to be brought about as early as possible, she added.

Mr. Rama Prasad Mookerjee, who presided over the session said that for improving the health condition of the people, their economic and educational standards should be raised.

The inauguration was followed by a three-day conference on rural health in which both national and international experts participated.

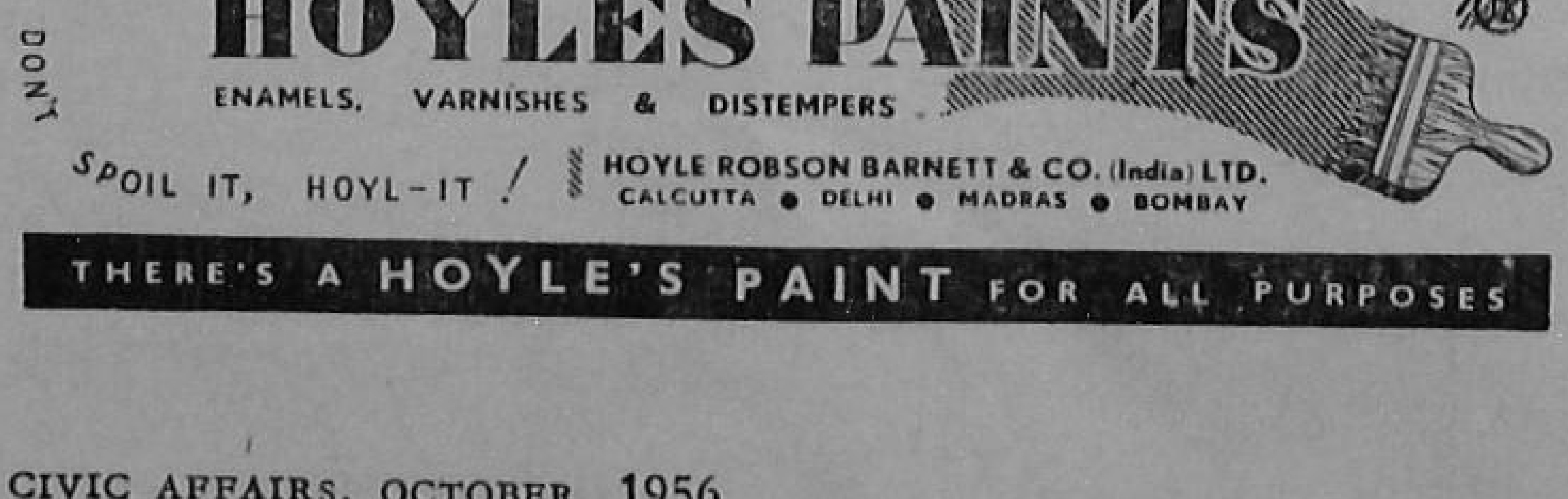
Municipalities' Plight Due to Refugee Influx

West Bengal's 82 Municipalities and two Corporations (Calcutta and Chandernagore) are in a serious plight, according to the President of the State Municipal Association, Mr. Hiren Roy, who said on September 11 that the population of the municipal areas had more than doubled in the past 10 years, largely due to the influx of Refugees from East Bengal. Three million refugees who had settled in the municipal areas constituted more than one-third of the total urban population in West Bengal, he pointed out. The present arrangements to meet this immense rise in population were totally inadequate and no help had been received from the Government towards the necessary capital expenditure, only some help being supplied in respect of water supply and drainage.

U. C. C. President's Success

Mr. Mohit Kumar Maitra, who defeated Mr. Ashok Kumar Sen (Congress) in the bye-election to the Lok Sabha from Calcutta North-West Constituency, is the President of the United Citizens Committee Municipal Association.

A Journalist by profession, Mr. Maitra was the editor of the 'Nation' which was started by the late Shri Sarat Chandra Bose. In 1952, he was empowered to conduct the Calcutta Corporation election and was appointed Secretary of the United Citizens' Committee and now is the President of the United Citizens' Committee Municipal Association.



Civic Affairs In Neighbouring Countries

Australia

Indian Constitution Recommended

A suggestion that the Indian Constitution would be worthy of study was made by the former Minister for Health, Sir Earle Page, in the Australian House of Representatives on May 23. The House of Representatives on May 24 approved the establishment of an all-party committee to study all aspects of the working of the Australian Constitution and make recommendations for its improvement.

Sir Earle, who submitted a statement setting out the financial arrangements existing between the Indian Central Government and its States, said that India had established a National Development Council which performed virtually all the functions of their Premiers' Conference and Loan Council and State Grants Commisstion, and was a direct liaison between the Central and State Governments. That Council had eliminated all wrangling in India over the distribution of loan money and revenue.

Burma

Operations Against Isurgents

The Burmese President, Dr. Ba U, told a special joint meeting of Parliament in Rangoon on September 18 that the Government had decided to intensify operational measures against isurgents with firmness and determination. The electorate in the last general elections, he said, had unmistakably given its mandate to Government to smash the despicable cult of lowlessness.

Head of Communist Party

The Government of Burma has announced a reward of Rs. 1 lakh for the capture—dead or alive—of Thakin Than Tun, head of Burma's Communist Party. The Government also announced a reward of Rs, 50,000 for the capture of any member of the Politburo of the Burma Communist Party. The Government's offer is in pursuance of its policy of an all-out drive against insurrection in the country. Thakin Than Tun, head of ths Burmese Communist Party, has been leading the insurrection against the Government for the last seven years.

U Nu To Visit India

U Nu, former Burmese Premier, is expected to visit India in Nevember. While in India, U Nu is expected to meet the Indian Prime Minister. He is believed to have communicated his concern to Pandit Nehru on the Chinese intrusion into Burmese territory.

Party Reorganisation

U Nu stepped down from the Prime Ministership and the leadership of the A.F.-P.F.L. after the last general elections. Eight years in power have brought in certain weaknesses in the party. After the elections, to tone up the party oraganisations, U Nu stepped down from the Premiership and took over responsibility for strengthening the party. Corrupt elements are being weeded out. U Nu is stated to be determined to build a far-flung organisation capable of shouldering, in a democratic manner, the tasks of building up Socialist Burma.

U Nu is probably the first outstanding Asian to show by deeds that extra-governmental efforts are more decisive than administrative efforts in building Socialism.

At present the Socialist Party in Burma has a picked membership of about 10,000, and a wider mass base provided by over 100,000 members of the trade unions and over a million members of peasant organisations.

Ceylon

"Sinhalese Only" Language Policy Not Anti-Indian

The Ceylon High Commissioner in India, Sir Edwin Wijeyaratne, speaking in Madras on September 11, quoted population statistics of Ceylon to justify the enactment of the "Sinhalese only" Bill.

He was pained to note that the South Indian press gave wide publicity to and wrote adverse comments on the "highly-coloured and prejudiced utterances" made by disgruntled pro-Tamil politicians while visiting India. He asked: "If you in India have taken two and half years or more to evolve a language policy which is still not satisfactory, can you not have the charity to allow us to see how we can satisfy our minorities as regards the protection of their respective languages." Ceylon Government was fully satisfied, Sir Edwin said, that neither the Madras nor the Indian Government had any hand in the agitation in South India against Ceylon's **"Sinhalese only" policy which was purely an internal affair of the island. Sir Edwin pointed out that out of a total population of eight million in Ceylon, seven million were citizens of the island.** Of the one million non-citizens, 980,000 were Indians. Of the citizen population 80 per cent. was Sinhalese, 13 per cent. Tamils and six and a half per cent. Moors. The rest were Malays, Chinese and Pakistanis. In the circumstances, he asked, "do you think it unreasonable that we have decided to have for official purposes the language which is spoken by the largest majority of people." He said that the enactment of the "Sinhalese only" Bill was not the final solution of the language problem. Every opportunity would be given for the study and growth of minority languages, he declared.

Czechoslovakia

New Building Techniques

Czechoslovak builders have recently begun to use new techniques in building basements using cement blocks. These are prefabricated building blocks which are placed one on the other and joined with cement mortar. Unlike panels, they have no armature, which makes their production less expensive. For this reason, however, they can be used only when the structure is under direct pressure, as is the case in a basement. Block construction of basements speeds up building by one-third and eliminates wet processes.

Ethiopia

Emperor Haile Silassie of Ethiopia will be in India from October 25 to November 17. During his stay in this country as State guest the Emperor will visit a number of important cities.

Governor of Addis Ababa

H. E. Kantiba T. H. Shoumiye, Governor and first citizen of Addis Ababa, was in Bombay in September on his way to attend the World Mayors' Conference held in Tokyo in-early October to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the founding of Tokyo.

Kantiba is a title conferred on whoever rules Ethiopia's capital and the municipality is known as Kantiba. Before being appointed to this post two months ago, Mr. Shoumiye was President of the Chamber of Deputies (Lower House) in Ethiopia.

In Ethiopia there are 13 Commissioners and 80 Regional and District Governors, who are all nominated. As Governor, Mr. Shoumiye looks after public administration and judicial courts.

France

Paris In "Poor Health"

Mr. Pierre Sudreau, Housing Commissioner of Paris, has propoaed a plan t decentralise Paris, one of the world's best known municipalities, writes the *American City*, the plan calls for the erection of a ring of "well-balanced small cities or communi ties" around the metropolitan city. As visualized by Mr. Sudreau, the proposed peripheral towns would have small industries of their own in which local workers could have jobs. They would eventually develop on their own but would be linked to Paris by arterial highways, thus keeping their residents in touch with Paris. The Sudreau plan was proposed following an official survey, which showed that France's fair capital was nothing more than "a monstrous spot, formless, unorganized and purposeless." The city now has more than 6,000,000 inhabitants occupying a metropolitan area of about 50 square miles.

According to the report, it is in "poor health" and is threatened with "gangrene and congestion" by next year unless something is done about the matter.

Iraq

Town plan For Margil

The new plan for Margil, prepared by Max Lock and Partners, a British firm of architects and town planning consultants, was exhibited in the Basrah show, which was opened on March 23. The plan envisages a new town centre with a mosque, cinema, library, health centre, small hotel, swimming-pool, police station, post office and fire-station, an estate of 2,000 modern houses south of the town, and a network of tree-lined avenues. The population of new Margil will be about 40,000.

Japan

Population Tops 90 Million

Japan's population totalled 90,017,000 on July 1, to go above the 90 million mark. The Statistics Bureau of the Prime Minister's Office making the announcement on August 17 said that the population increased by approximately 18 million since the end of the war. Japanese population experts predict that the population will reach 100 million by 1970, in another 14 years.

From the standpoint of population density, Japan is now third in the world with 243 persons per square kilometers. (The population density of the Netherlands is 324 persons per square kilometers and of Belgium 288 persons per square kilometers). Because of the mountainous nature of its topography, Japan faces an extremely critical population problem. And the natural increase of one million annually during the past several years has aggravated this situation.

Tokyo's 500th Anniversary

To celebrate the 500th anniversary of the founding of Tokyo city, a conference of Mayors from the capitals and cities of the world was held in Tokyo in the first week of October. The Metropolitan Government of Tokyo covers an area of 769 square miles. The population of Tokyo is 8 million. According to 1955 figures every day 347 persons are born in Tokyo and 121 persons die.

The number of dwelling houses in Tokyo in December, 1955, was 15,95,000 of which 40,571 were municipal houses.

The daily water supply is 1,828,177 tons, the daily sewage disposal 724,319 tons and the daily refuse collection 2,842 tons.

The number of street cars in Tokyo is 991, the number of buses 1,210 and of trolley buses 50.

During 1955, there were 16,050 traffic accidents, of which 767 were fatal.

There are 94,210 street trees in Tokyo.

Tokyo has 73,190 foreign residents. The largest number consists of Koreans 52,294 Chinese 12,924 and Americans 3,848. British come fourth with a figure of 674. **The number of Indians living in Tokyo is 111.**

Malaya

Constiution For Federation

Malaya's triple alliance Government in a memorandum published in Kuala Lumpur on September 28 recommended that Britain should cede her rights over the settlements of Penang and Malacca. The memorandum, sent to the Reid Constitutional Commission, said Malays should enjoy "a special position" in an independent Federation of Malaya. The Reid Commission, headed by Lord Reid, is drafting a Constitution. Its members come from India, Pakistan, the U. K. and Australia The triple alliance comprises the three main political parties in Malaya — the United Malaya National Organisation, the Malayan Chinese Association and the Malayan Indian Congress.

Nepal

Treaty With China

The text of the treaty, signed by Nepal and China on September 20, was released

in Peking and Kathmandu on September 23. Under the terms of the treaty, Nepal will withdraw within six months its military escorts now stationed in Lhasa and other places in Tibet. China and Nepal will establish Consultates-General in Kathmandu and Lhasa respectively but the date of establishment of the missions wiil be determined later.

Nepal may open trade agencies at Shigatse, Kyerong and Nyalam and China may open trade agencies in Nepal. The location of the trade agencies will be decided later.

No one will be allowed to retain Nepalese nationality while residing in Tibet for generations.

Trade agencies of both parties shall be accorded the same status and treatment. Trade agents shall enjoy freedom from arrest while exercising their functions and shall enjoy in respect of themselves, their wives and their children who are dependant on them for livelihood, freedom from search.

Trade agencies shall enjoy privileges and immunities for couriers, mailbags and communication in code.

Customary traders of the two countries doing business, their children and dependants and attendants shall possess passports and visas for crossing the border. Previously there was no passport system of travel between the two territories and Nepalese had free right of entry into Tibet.

Diplomatic personnel and officials of the two countries and nationals must possess passports and visas for travel across the border Entry through a third country should also be qualified by possession of proper travel documents.

Both parties agreed that to maintain and develop traditional contacts between Nepal and Tibet they would safeguard the proper interests of the nationals of each other in accordance with the laws of the country of residence.

Previously Nepalese residing in Tibet used to be governed by the laws of Nepal and need not have paid taxes for trading in Tibet.

Nepalese nationals in the Tibet region of China and Chinese nationals in Nepal shall be subjected to the jurisdiction of the Government of the country of residence, observe the laws and regulations of the country of residence, pay taxes to that Government and respect local customs.

All civil and criminal cases or disputes in which nationals of one party in the territory of the other may be involved shall be dealt with by the Government of the country of residence.

Previously Nepalese in Tibet used to be tried by joint courts, composed of Nepalese and Tibetan judges.

Both parties agreed to establish direct wireless telegraphic service between Lhasa and Kathmandu.

They also agreed that any person residing in Tibet born of mixed parentage and of 18 years of age or over may choose Chinese nationality for himself and his children below 18 years of age.

The agreement says that traders of both Nepal and the Tibet region of China, known to be customarily and specifically engaged in border trade, may continue to do so at their traditional markets.

It is also agreed that pilgrimages of a religious nature may continue according to religious custom. Personal baggage and articles used for pilgrimage shall be exempt from taxation. Pilgrims need not hold passports, visas or other documents of certification, but shall register at the border checkposts or the first Government office of the other country and obtain permits for pilgrimage.

Inhabitants of the border districts of either country, frequently travelling across the boder, may do so as they have customarily done and need not hold passports, or visas, or other documents.

Prime Minister's Visit To China

Nepal's Prime Minister, Mr. Tanka Prasad Acharya, accompanied by his wife, left Kathmandu on September 21 on a three-week official tour of China at the invitation of the Chinese Premier, Mr. Chou En-lai.

Prior to his departure, Mr. Acharya, in a broadcast, called upon the people to unite and help the Government to make the country's first Five Year Plan a success. The Plan would cost about Rs. 33 crores— 33% of the Plan would be devoted to the development of roads, railways, ropeways, telephones and wireless communications; 17% towards hydro-electric projects; and 25% to agriculture.

The Prime Minister traced the achievements of his Government in the eight months it has been in power. He said the Government was gradually breaking the "age-old autocratic chains and creating a democratic atmosphere for the betterment of the nation."

Mr. Acharya said he was going to China to get a first-hand glimpse of the "great advancement made by our neighbour in such a short time."

Acting Prime Minister

Mr. Chuda Prasad Sharma, Nepals Foreign Minister, was acting as Prime Minister during the absence of Mr. Acharya.

Dr. K. I. Singh's Opposition

Dr. K. I. Singh, leader of the Nepal United Democratic Pary, however, was opposed to the Nepal Prime Minister's visit to China. In a resolution, passed at his party meeting on September 21, it was stated that the Prime Minister's visit to China was "against the interest of the nation from every point of view."

Dr. Singh, it may be recalled, had taken political asylum for four years in Peking after his abortive revolt in Nepal.

Regmi Fears Chinese Influence

Mr. D. R. Regmi, a former foreign Minister of Nepal and leader of Nepali National Congress, in a statement in Kathmandu on September 27 said he welcomed the new Sino-Nepal agreement so far as it abrogated the old treaty terms which were "outdated and outmoded", but he feared that the concession given to the Chinese to establish three reciprocal trade agencies in Nepal may ultimately bring about complete Chinese influence in the 10-mile belt of their northern borders. He also apprehended that Nepal might become an arena of power politics.

Mr. Regmi said up to now Nepalese traders in Tibet enjoyed wide privileges, even more than Indians. In his opinion the new agreement may slowly squeeze out Nepalese businessmen and traders might gradually start returning back to Nepal.

The new agreement, with particular reference to the Tibet region of China abrogating the 1856 Convention, was signed in Kathmandu on September 20 and its terms were made public simultaneously from Peking and Kathmandu on September 23.

Nepalese Traders' Apprehensions

Members of a delegation representing private Nepalese traders in Tibet who had come to Kathmandu to urge Nepal Govt. to ensure protection of Nepalese traders' interest in the proposed Sino-Nepalese trade and friendship agreement then being negotiated, said in Kathmandu on Septembers 5 that the entire internal administration of Tibet had been handed over to Tibetans following reports of 'dissatisfaction among monks' there early this year.

8,000 Nepalese in Lhasa

Delegation members said that 8,000 Nepalese in Lhasa would face 'extinction' through the abrogation of the 1856 treaty between Nepal and Tibet unless the Chinese persuaded the Tibetans to reform their 500-year-old medieval laws. They said abrogation of the 1856 treaty would place the Nepalese in Lhasa directly under the uncodified and 'anachronistic' Tibetan laws. Had there been modern laws or if the Chinese laws were made applicable to Tibet they would not have asked for specialm easures for their protection.

Disturbed Conditions

Dr. K. I. Singh, President of the United Democratic Party of Nepal, speaking in Lucknow on September 29, said conditions in Nepal generally and in Western Nepal in particular were very much disturbed. He attributed this to the insecurity of land

tenure. Two other causes of the present disturbed conditions were the alleged corruption of officials and the weakness of Government, he said.

Dr. K. I. Singh said that the king had announced that the general elections in Nepal would be held in 1957 and expressed the hope that the Government would stick to this announcement. The working committee of the United Democratic Party had decided that its representatives could join the Government even before elections but would not coalesce with any other party in this connection.

Opposition To Embassies

Dr. Singh expressed his opposition to the opening of embassies in Kathmandu. He though that a small and weak State like Nepal could not bear the diplomatic strain of ambassadorial activities.

Link With India

President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, will arrive in Kathmandu on October 21 on a four-day State visit. Dr. Prasad is the first head of the State to visit Nepal. The Kathmandu and the Bhaktapore Municipal Committees will accord him civic receptions.

No Deterioration In Relations

Mr. Tanka Prasad Acharya, Nepal's Prime Minister, denied on September 15 that there had been a deterioration in Indo-Nepal relations. In an interview he said that such allegations were "wrong and mischievous". Commending the good relations that existed between Nepal and China, he said: "Nepal can only flourish on the goodwill of both India and China. We cannot afford to offend either of our two great neighbours".

India's aid to Nepal's Rs. 33-crore first Plan will amount to Rs. 10 crores and American aid will amount to Rs. 8 crores.

Improvement of Communications

The bulk of Rs. 10 crore Indian assistance as also of the Rs. 8 crore promised by the U. S. A., will go towards transport and rail projects phased over a period of five years. Lacking effective means of transport, Nepal has often faced lawlessness and food scarcity in recent year. Plans now completed envisage construction of 600 miles of metalled and fair-weather roads and another 300 miles of hill tracks over a period of five years. The target, eventually, is to construct 4,000 miles of roads and thus have an effective net-work of highways fanning across the country in 20 years. Trade routes from Nepal to India will be accorded priority in the road construction programme. To maintain the new roads additional taxation is proposed.

A new ropeway is planned to be built to replace the existing ropeway across the valley and handle 20 tons of cargo per hour instead of the present five tons.

Nepal's railway plan envisages conversion of the existing 29-mile rail line from narrow gauge to metre gauge at a cost of Rs. 10,500,000 and the construction of another 25 miles of rail track at a cost of Rs. 22,500,000. This scheme is aimed at providing through train services on metre guage linking up with Indian lines, and achieving uniformity with Indian railways.

Five Year Plan

Nepal's Rs. 330-million Five-Year Plan, details of which were made available in Delhi in September, promised extensive land reforms, an equitable distribution of income, higher living standards, a mixed economy and a modern administrative system to the 8,500,000 people of the small Himalayan kingdom.

Transport, irrigation, village development, agricultural extension service and industrialisation are the main facets of development envisaged in the Plan.

An impressive aspect of the Plan is the coverage of the one-third of the country by 150 development blocks. About 10,000 families in the hills and 13,000 in the Terai will participate in this first-ever attempt to improve the lot of the villagers. An Industrial Research Bureau is to be set up to promote studies of industrialisation programmes and to train technicians.

Nepal will soon have its own airlines to be known as Air Nepal. Planes would be

hired by Air Nepal on a charter basis from Indian Airlines Corporation. The responsibility of operating and maintaining aircraft would be that of I. A. C. until Nepalese personnel are trained.

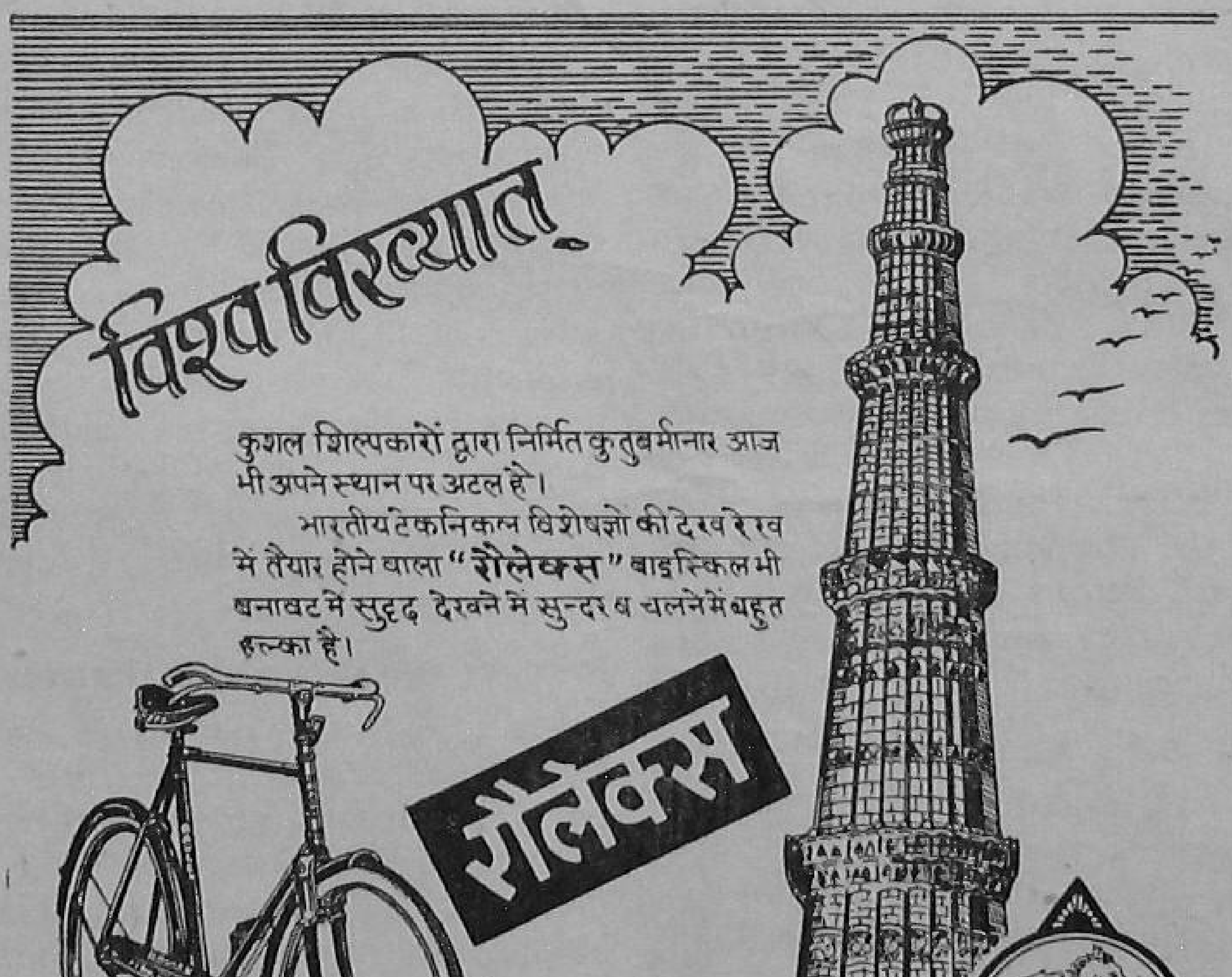
Lawlessness Reports

Nepal Government in September ordered a commission, headed by a Nepalese Army brigadier, to leave Kathmandu immediately to inquire into the situation in Nepal's north-western district of Mustang bordering the Tibet region of China. Reports of lawlessness in that area had reached the Kazi of Mustang. It was stated that hordes of raiders from across the border had been looting the district and subjecting local traders to great harassment. The Kazi also complained that the Raja of Mustang—one of Nepal's 24 vassal principalities—who was alleged to be in league with these marauding bands had been guilty of extorting taxes and protection money from the people if they wished to carry on their trade unmolested.

Pakistan

New Pakistan Cabinet

The new Pakistan Cabinet, headed by Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy, was sworn in on September 12. The Cabinet comprised four members of the Anwami League and five of the Republican Party. They are: Mr. Suhrawardy, Mr. Abul Mansur, Mr. Ahmad Dildar and Mr. Ahmad Abdul Khaliq (Awami League) and Mr. Ghulam Ali Talpur, Sardar Amir Azam, Mr. Amjad Ali, Mian Jafar Shah, and Mr. Firoz Khan Noon (Republican Party).



Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy

Mr. Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy was born in Midnapur in 1893. An M. A., B. C. L. of the Oxford University, he was called to the Bar by the Gray's Inn.

When the late Mr. C. R. Das become the Mayor of Calcutta, Mr. Suhrawardy was elected Deputy Mayor of the Calcutta Corporation. He was a member of the Bengal Legislative Council from 1921 to 1947 and served in the undivided Bengal Cabinet as a Minister and held the portfolios of Commerce, Labour, Finance, Public Health, Local Self-Government, Rural Reconstruction and Food. In 1946, he was the Chief Minister of undivided Bengal.

Mr. Suhrawardy founded the Awami Muslim League in Pakistan in 1949 and has since been its Convener.

On December 20, 1954, Mr. Suhrawardy joined the Pakistan Cabinet and took over as Minister of Law. In August, 1955, when the Muslim League and the United Front Coalition Government was formed at the Centre, he became Leader of Opposition.

Republican Party's Support

Announcing the Republican Party's full support to Mr. Suhrawardy in the formation of the Cabinet, Dr. Khan Sahib said on September 11 that the "union between the Republicans and the Awami League is now complete". No conditions had been laid down by his party for a coalition with the Awami League, he said.

Mr. Mohammed Ali's Resignation

The President had called on Mr. Suhrawardy to form the Government, after Mr. Mohammad Ali, who resigned from the Premiership on September 8, had declined the President's request to come back as Premier.

New League Leader

Mr. Mohmmed Ali, also resigned from the Muslim League.

Mr. I. I. Chundrigar was elected leader of the Muslim League Parliamentary Party at a meeting of the Party in Karachi on September 13. The Party had decided to sit in the Opposition and had also directed its members to boycott the election to the National Assembly, due to be held on September 18.

Non-Muslims in Ministry

Mr. Rasa Raj Mandal, General Secretary of the East Pakistan Scheduled Castes Federation, was sworn in as Minister of State, on September 26, in the Government of Pakistan. The appointment of a non-Muslim Cabinet Minister was now considered unlikely. Instead, three non-Muslims have already been appointed Ministers in the East Pakistan Cabinet. Mr. Mandal has been allotted the portfolio of Economic Affairs.

Awami League Ministry in East Pakistan

The East Pakistan Chief Minister, Mr. Abu Hussain Sarkar, tendered the resignation of his Cabinet to the Governor, Mr. Fazlul Huq, on August 30.

Mr. Ataur Rahman Khan, leader of the Opposition in the Provincial Assembly, on September 3 accepted the invitation of the Governor, Mr. Fazlul Huq, to form a Ministry in East Pakistan. He is leader of the Awami League Parliamentary Party. The crisis arose when the Governor, on the advice of Mr. Sarkar prorogued the East Pakistan Assembly only a few hours before it was to meet for its budget session on August 13. The Opposition parties had tabled motions of no-confidence in the Sarkar Ministry for discussion during the session.

Merger of Opposition Parties

Six Opposition parties in West Pakistan have decided to merge into one political party which will, among other things, work for the disintegration of West Pakistan as one unit. The parties are: The Sind Awami Mahaz, the Azad Pakistan Party, the Wrore Pashtoon Party, the Sind Hari Committee, the Zustman Gull and the Red Shirts.

A convention of the parties will be held in Lahore in November to give final approval to the constitution of the new party.

Saudi-Arabia

Civic Reception To Indian Prime Minister

At the civic reception given by the Riyadh Municipality on September 25,

India's Prime Minister, Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru was welcomed as "a great world personality and representative of a country which has tens of millions of Muslim brethern." The address said : "our people always remember your Government's support of Arab causes. Our beloved king's visit to your great country has contributed to strengthening and consolidation of our close relations. We hope and believe that your visit will add more solidity to these cordial and friendly relations."

In his reply Mr. Nehru said that in his tour of Riyadh city he had realized "that tremendous energy and work that is going on in Saudi Arabia today." Arabia, Mr. Nehru said, was the cradle of the Arab race. More than 1,300 years ago a graet and powerful message went out to other parts and shook the world.

Changing Face of Riyadh

Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia, is situated at an elevation of 1,700 feet above sea level and is daily growing in importance as the centre of national life. The King and his advisers live here most of the time and keep in touch with all parts of the vast realm by telegraph, telephone and radio. A spacious garage houses several thousand royal cars.

Dr. Zakir, Husain, Vice-Chanceller of Aligarh University, who visited Saudi Arabia in May this year, says that the old town of Riyadh had all but disappeared and bulldozers were busy levelling the site for a brand-new town worthy of the new kingdom. The new houses were fine modern structures, but one missed the characteristic motives of the native architecture some of which had travelled with the Arabs to Spain and thence to Mexico and the Pacific coast of the USA.

Dr. Zakir Husain was able to examine the plans of the new city. They were thorough and ambitious. The city when completed will be one of the finest capital towns in the Arab world.

More Roads and Rail Lines

King Saud, speaking in Riyadh on September 28, said oil was the greatest product of this country. They were now

Lakshmiratan Cotton Mills Co., Ltd.

OF

(Behari Lal Ram Charan Group of Industries)

Which Also Comprises of

- BEHARILAL RAMCHARAN COTTON MILLS Co., Ltd., BOMBAY
- AURANGABAD MILLS Ltd., AURANGABAD (DECCAN)
- LAKSHMIRATAN ENGINEERING WORKS Ltd., BOMBAY

For FANS

- ENGINEERING WORKS OF INDIA Ltd., CALCUTTA

For PAINTS

- RAGHUNATH ENAMELS Ltd., KANPUR

FOR MINIATURE & TORCH BULBS

Glass & Miniature Bulb Industries

KANPUR.

endeavouring to produce many materials that may help to build a kingdom. Plans were being made to produce cement. To improve agriculture, the most important thing was to pump out water from below the earth and construct roads for better transport facilities. Roads were being constructed all over the kingdom.

King Saud said that a scheme was being prepared to build a net-work of railways in the desert kingdom (Saudi Arabia has now 360 miles of railways connecting big towns).

This desert kingdom has already struck what should be even more precious, namely, water. There is a vast underground reservoir near Riyadh which should not only supply water for drinking purposes but also for extension of agriculture.

South Africa

People of Indian Origin Uprooted From Their Homes

The position of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa has "further deteriorated," the Government of India told the United Nations on September 11. The statement was made in an explanatory memorandum to the Secretary-General, accompanying a formal request for consideration of the question at the forthcoming session of the General Assembly opening on November 12. Mr. Arthur S. Lall, permanent Indian delegate, said that since last year's debate on the issue by the General Assembly a number of persons of Indian origin had been uprooted from their homes and forbidden to reside in important industrial and commercial areas of the Union.

Last year the Assembly urged India, South Africa and Pakistan, as the parties concerned, to negotiate with a view to bringing about a settlement of the question of treatment of people of Indian origin. The issue has been on the Assembly agenda since 1946. Mr. Lall in his memorandum said that the South African Government had declined to accede to India's request for negotiations. Therefore, he said, South Africa had "refused to meet the wishes expressed by the General Assembly." The Government of India felt sure that the General Assembly would wish to take further steps to bring about a peaceful and appropriate solution of this problem.

U. K.

Public Works Congress and Exhibition

The 1956 Public Works & Municipal Services Congress and Exhibition will take place at Olympia, London, from November 12 to 17. The Congress and Exhibition are devoted to the manifold problems and needs of the services maintained by public and local authorities for the benefit of the communities they serve througout the world. Over 80 countries were represented at the last Congress and Exhibition held in 1954. This year's display will be even larger. The Congress sessions, at which papers on outstanding topical aspects of the public service are submitted by leading experts, will be held under the auspices of well-known professional societies affiliated to the Congress Council.

Exchange of Civic Leaders

Dr. D. R. Prem, President of the Birmingham Indian Society, has suggested to the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Alderman E. W. Apps, and City Councillors, that exchanges should be arranged between civic leaders and workers from Midland towns and those of some industrial cities in India. The civic exchanges, Dr. Prem said, should be arranged first. Delegations, civic and otherwise, were exchanged with America, Russia and many countries on the Continent and there was no reason why these should not be exchanged with Asian countries, Dr. Prem added.

U.S.A.

Presidential Election

On November 6 millions of Americans will go to the polls to chose the next President of the United States. A President is elected every four years and he may be continued in office or a new man chosen for it. The President is responsible to the people of the United States. In the Government of United States the Presi-

United Nations Day

On October 24, 1956, the United Nations completed 11 years and entered the 12th year of its life. Millions across the globe, speaking different tongues and donning different dresses, celebrated tke 11th birth anniversary of the United Nations — a world forum forged by the common consent of 50 nations who signed the U. N. Charter on October 24, 1945. (The number of member countries has since increased to 76).

A new chapter in human relationship was begun that day when the war-fed world pledged itself in the words of the U.N. Charter to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and "to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom".

Hand in hand with it obligations to maintain peace, the U. N. has established a network of specialised agencies devoted to the overall welfare of mankind.

An Example of Accomplishment

An example of U. N. accomplishment may be found in the Tarai district of Uttar

(*Continued on next page*)

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dent occupies a position of great power. The importance of the President has grown over the years for the President is elected by the country as a whole.

Big Cities Agree on Worst Problems

A recent survey by the Citizens Budget Commission of New York City, as reported by *The American City*, .shows that the mayors of some of the world's largest cities consider almost unanimously that their worst problems include finance and taxation, and transportation and traffic. Next to these come problems associated with city growth and change, including housing and slums, population changes and suburban growth. The "house-keeping" type of problem — air pollution, street cleaning and water supply — ranked low in all cases. No mayor considered juvenile delinquency among the top three problems in his city.

Cities replying to the questionaire included London, Glasgow, Toronto, New Orleans, Milwaukee, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Buffalo, Chicago, Detroit and the District of Columbia.

New York City Plans To Wipe Out Polio

Dr. Leona Baumgartner, New York City Commissioner of Health, has announced details of campaign to rid the nation's largest city of poliomyelitis next year.

In a report to the Mayor, city health authorities said they were determined to make the disease a "thing of the past" in New York, and to "wipe it out thoroughly as we have already wiped out deptheria."

A key phase of the new campaign involves the inoculation of 2,350,000 New Yorkers 20 to 40 years old with Salk polio shots before the beginning of the 1957 polio season.

Dr. Baumgartner, who visited India last year to inspect health progress in that country, said to complete the job of protecting the under-20 group, the city is inoculating children in child health stations, schools and in district health centres.

U.S.S.R.

Soviet Academy of Building & Architecture

Moscow is soon to have seven new hotels built on up-to-date lines to accomodate the increasing number of foreign tourists.

The official Soviet plan provides for the building of a total of about 20 hotels in various parts of Moscow and a similar number in several of the large cities in the Soviet Union.

The plans for the building of the hotels were announced simultaneously with the reorganisation of the Soviet Academy of Building and Architecture. This is to study more extensively Western and other buildings to see which features could be adopted advantageously by Russian architects in the new building drive. Branches of the reorganized academy are to be opened in Leningrad in the Urals, and in Siberia, each having a bureau of design, workshops and model building sites.

(Continued from previous page)

Pradesh, where malaria has been wiped out by WHO teams, enabling farmers to raise their food output by 50 per cent. The helping, healing hand of UNICEF reaches 220,000 Indian children every day, providing them with free powdered milk. In West Bengal and Bombay FAO is assisting in deep-sea fishing operations. And in Delhi, UNESCO has joined hands with the Government of India in launching the Delhi Public Library, a model for future South-East Asian libraries, and helping research on desert control in Rajasthan.

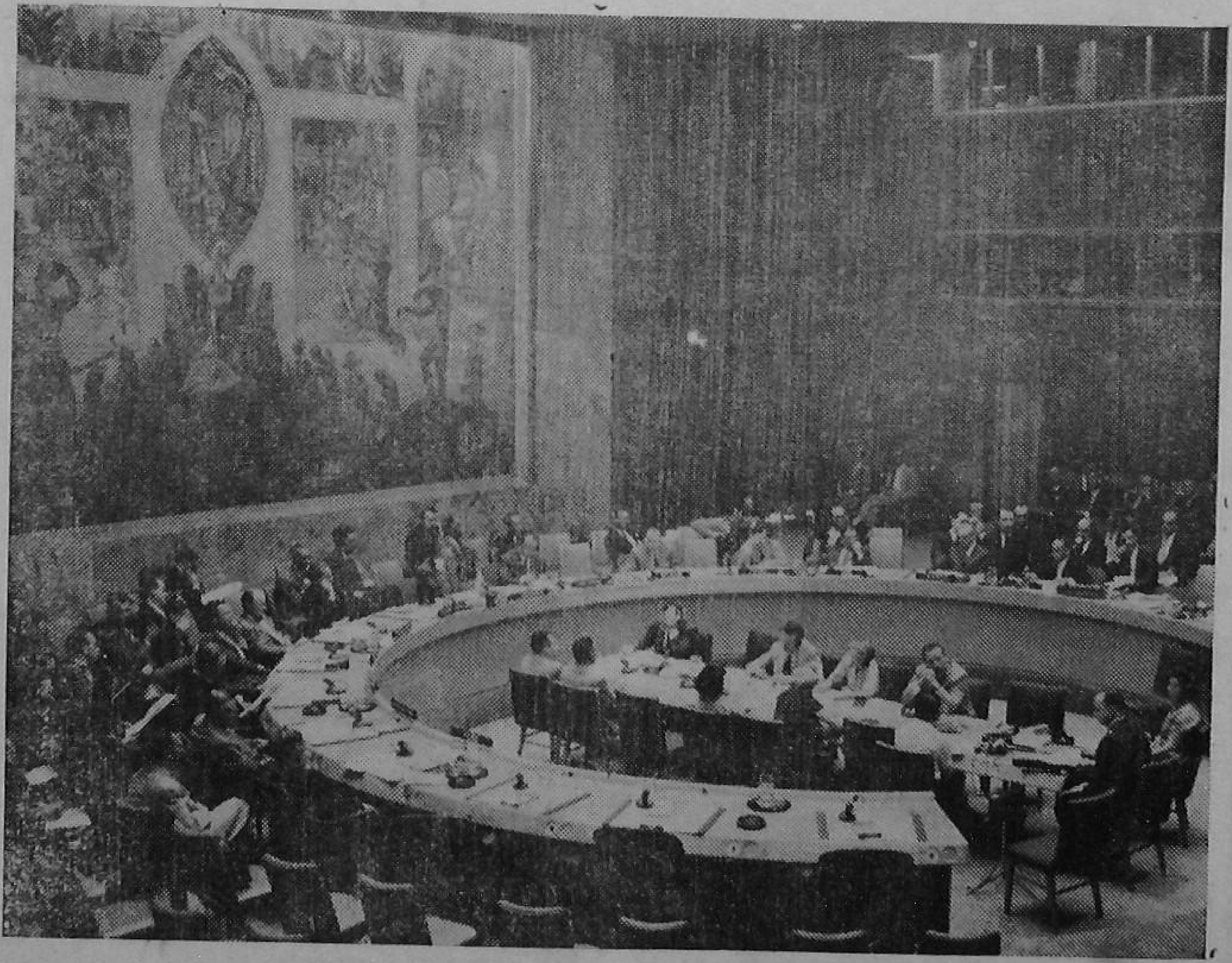
All in all, the United Nations has a record of "unremitting labour towards realising the hopes of mankind for an ordered world based on the supremacy of reason and justice."

Security Council

The Security Council of the United Nations is charged with the maintenance of international peace and security. China, France, USSR, United Kingdom and United States are its five permanent members and six other members are elected for two-year terms. The admission of States to membership in the United Nations is effected by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council and in 1956 it unanimously recommended the admission of the Sudan, Morocco and Tunisia as new members.

Secretary General

Mr. Dag Hammarskjold was appointed Secretary-General of the United Nations in 1953 by the General Assembly as a distinguished representative of his own country, before his present appointment.



The U. N. Security Council in Session

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